



Upcoming Faith Stepping Stone Dates...

Kindergarten: July 31
Confirmation: August 28

Other Dates At-A-Glance...

Confirmation Parent Orientation:

August 3 - 7 p.m.

Child/Youth Protection Training:

August 3 - 7 p.m.

R & R (Rejoice and Return) Day:

August 7 - 11 a.m.

Sunday School Begins:

August 14 - 9:30 a.m.

Confirmation Parent and Student Orientation:

August 17 - 7 p.m.

Confirmation/FX3 Begins:

August 28 - 12 p.m.

Christian Education Committee

Co-Chairs:

Donna Garges, Margaret Mixon,
Lori Peters

Council Liaison: Janice Swinford
Staff: Michelle Angalet

Bill Alderfer
Gina Benardo
Holly Jones
Steve Meier
Jennifer Rinderknecht
Ed Roberts
Nina Schultz



Contact us >>>

Questions?

Contact Janice Swinford,
Sunday School Superintendent at
sundayschool@gslc.comcastbiz.net
or MichelleAngalet at
michelle.angalet-gslc@comcast.net

770-924-7286

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Issue
FOUR

Insight into Christian Education Activities at
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Christian Education News

Sunday School Registration

Only those students who are new to Sunday School this year or have never completed a registration form need to fill out a registration form. Forms are available outside Michelle's office and on the web-site. They should be returned to either Michelle Angalet or Janice Swinford.

Rejoice and Return August 7, 2011

Join us for R & R (rejoice and return) Sunday at Lutherwood on Lake Allatoona. It's lakeside worship (11 a.m.) It's a picnic (12:30 p.m.) It's lots of fun!

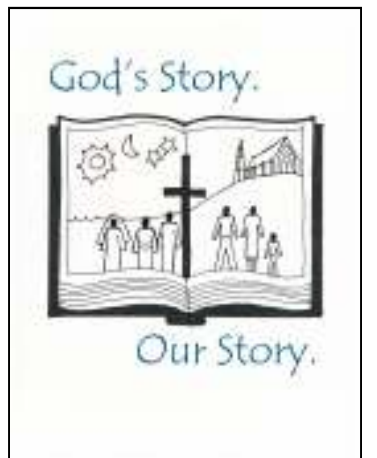
Hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, and water will be provided. Bring a side dish, a dessert to share and drinks. Bring chairs, blankets and bathing suits. Details and Sign up at Sign up Central. The 8, 9:30 & 11 worship services will be held as usual at Good Shepherd.

2011-2012
Sunday School Dates
August 14—May 20

God's Story. Our Story. Biblical Fluency Project Update

Since January, Good Shepherd has been participating in a research project called Biblical Fluency conducted by Luther Seminary. The Biblical Fluency project is one of several smaller projects which inform a larger study that Luther Seminary is engaged in called Vital Congregations. In essence, the seminary has received a substantial grant from the Lilly Endowment (the same organization to which Pr. Paul has applied for funding for his sabbatical) to research and document what characteristics make for "vital" congregations. Congregations that are Biblically fluent is one such characteristic. We were selected as one of eleven congregations who met criteria for being Biblically fluent and have agreed to share what we do, and to experiment with ideas to make us more so, during the course of the 18 month project.

Thank you for your participation in this project. With your support we conducted twenty in-depth interviews with members and had 156 people participate in our online survey (our goal was 150 and Luther's goal for us was 100). Based on this research and on a growing body of recent research on faith formation and Christian education in the future, we recognize that most people who participate in a congregation say that worship is the primary place where they hear and learn about the Bible. While we have always had great participation in Bible studies at Good Shepherd, we recognize that, for many, participation in them in addition to worship participation is difficult for a number of reasons. We also recognize, based on your input and on current research, that



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From the Sunday School Superintendent:

It is with heavy heart that I share with you all that God has called me in a new direction. In early August I will be relocating to Asheville, NC to be closer to family and friends and to pursue a teaching career. Being the Sunday School Superintendent for the past 3 years has truly been a blessing for me. It has been a joy to watch all of our Sunday School students grow in faith and learn about God's endless love and grace for them. I am forever grateful for my GSLC family! May God continue to bless Good Shepherd, Gina

Thank you to all of our Sunday School leaders who have committed themselves to leading our Sunday School classes next year! Be sure to say thank you to them and to keep them, and their ministry, in your prayers.

2011-2012 Sunday School Leaders

9:30 am Leaders

Two Year Olds

Angie Condra (T)
Julie Hackett (A)
Peggy Oleson (A)

2nd Grade

Myra Rissmiller(T)
Barb Bauer (A)
Richard Oleson (A)

Adult Class Leaders

Jim Cady (9:30)
Lori Peters (11:00)

11 am Leaders

Three Year Olds

Molly Maher (T)
Sharron Ryan (T)
Heidi Myers (A)
Darby Graham (A)

3rd Grade

Deanna Kopp (T)
Cecelia Munson (T)
Tim Heintz (A)
YOUR NAME HERE (A)

Pre-K

Trina Hutchison (T)
Valerie Whiteman (T)
Damon Garges (A)
Jennifer Riva (A)

4th/5th Grade

Keith Porter (T)
Chuck McCoy (T)
Kristin Brenneman (A)
Karen Britts (A)

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade

Ali Walters (T)
Tammy Olsen (A)

Four Year Olds

Steve Meier (T)
Amanda Wrye (T)
Tim Matthews (A)
Sarita Morris (A)

Middle School

Mike McCoy (T)
Mindi Pirkl (A)
Michelle Endozo (A)
Jennifer Lucier (A)

3rd-5th Grade

Angela Renner (T)
Karen Epstein (T/A)
Chuck Halhober (A)

Kindergarten

Priscilla Hughes (T)
Stacey Vyneman (T)
Laura Lazar (A)
Vic Feldman (A)

11 am Middle School

Bill Alderfer (T)
Karen Dery (T)

High School

Tony Endozo (T)
Holly Jones (T)
Kris McKeeth (A)
Kim Erikson (A)
Debbie Baumgartner (A)
Laurie Koger (A)
Lisa Morton (S)
Frank Gudger (S)
Jenne Rinderknecht (S)

Substitute Teachers

Jan Cady (9:30)
Pam Hough (9:30)
Brenda Kviton (both)
Jennifer Taylor (9:30)
Lynn Torres (9:30)
Mary Tucker (9:30)
Judy Wangen (9:30)
Stan Wangen (9:30)
Tammy Frink (11:00)
Donna Garges (11:00)
Chris Peters (11:00)

1st Grade

YOUR NAME HERE (T)
Scarlett Hovda (A)
Gina Crittenden (A)

Confirmation/FX3 Schedule

August: 28	January: 8
September: 11	February: 22
25	February: 5
October: 9*	19
*Lutheridge Retreat	March: 4
23	18
November: 6	April: 15
20	29
December: 4	May: 6
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FX3 is for children in 4th and 5th grades. Contact Michelle Angalet for more information.

Confirmation News

9th Grade Students: As summer draws to a close and you prepare to enter the world of high school you also have Confirmation to look forward to. This is a major step in your lifelong journey of faith and we are excited to celebrate this with you and give thanks to God for the faithfulness God has shown to you. Confirmation Sunday is October 30th and the rite of Confirmation will take place at the 11:00 service. As you likely know by now the service on October 30th provides an opportunity for each of you to stand before the congregation and confess your faith. A walk through of the service and a banquet for you and your parents will be held on the evening of October 23rd. Please watch your mail for more important details.

The Holy Spirit is ready to kick off another year of Confirmation. Students in grades 6-8 are invited to participate in the confirmation program again this year. Our learning focus this year will be on the Holy Spirit and the Church. If you are in grades 6-8 or have a child who is be sure to mark these important dates on your calendar:

Confirmation Parent Orientation:

August 3 @ 7 p.m.

Confirmation Parent & Student Orientation:

August 17 @ 7 p.m.

First Session of Confirmation :

August 28 @ 12 p.m.



Our race for the House Cup will again be highly competitive. Be sure to be in attendance every session to help your House gain valuable points. Will last year's champions Ravenclaw House be able to defend their title?

God's Story. Our Story.

Biblical Fluency Project Update *(continued from p. 1)*

most people do not know the big picture story that Scripture tells. Knowledge of this story is the foundation of Biblical fluency. Therefore, beginning in August, we will look to our worship services as a place to spend more time engaging people in Bible study that is focused on learning the story that Scripture tells – from Genesis to Revelation. We call this initiative **God's Story. Our Story.**

God's Story. Our Story. will begin on August 28 and run through the first weekend in June. We will be providing more detailed description of what this will look like in worship and throughout our life together in the coming weeks. The purpose statement for *God's Story. Our Story.* is found below. In addition to our study together during worship there will be opportunities to engage this initiative online through our new website. Bible study groups will be selecting resources over our new website. Bible study groups will be selecting resources over the next year designed to support this initiative. Sunday School classes will be engaging *God's Story. Our Story.* in their own contexts. A new Sunday evening Bible study led by the rostered leaders will be offered.

For *God's Story. Our Story.* to be successful in achieving its intended purpose, we need your continued engagement and participation. What can you do? Begin with prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to guide your participation in this initiative. Commit to being in worship regularly to follow *God's Story. Our Story.* Read and reflect on the weekly focus reading by following our schedule online or as provided in late August. Consider joining the new Sunday night Bible study or an already existing study group. Follow our online blog to participate in weekly discussion. Start a new small group of people with similar schedules and/or interests to reflect on the weekly readings together. Participate in our quarterly feedback surveys. We will provide plenty of opportunities in the weeks ahead for you to find a place of comfort in which to participate and to learn that God's story is indeed our story. Thanks be to God!

God's Story. Our Story. Purpose Statement :

The Bible tells the stories of people living their faith over the centuries and, through its demands and promises, forms us as a people of faith.* In order to increase Biblical fluency as a congregation, over the next nine months we will explore some of those major faith stories in the Old and New Testaments to understand how God's faithfulness has formed and continues to form people of faith.

***From *Opening the Book of Faith*, Augsburg Fortress, 2008**

Fall Bible Study Opportunities

Day	Class	Leader	Time
Sunday	Adult Sunday School Class	Jim Cady	9:30 a.m.
	Adult Sunday School Class	Lori Peters	11:00 a.m.
	God's Story. Our Story	Rotation of Rostered Leaders	Evening
Monday	Crossways Study	Holly Jones	Morning
	(continues with 2nd year of a 2 year study)		
Tuesday	Lunch and Learn	Michelle Angalet	Lunchtime
Wednesday	Word on Wednesday	Lori Peters	Morning
	Evening Bible Study	Pastor Justin	Evening
Thursday	Morning Bible Study	Pastor Paul	Morning
Saturday	Weekly Lectionary Gospel Lessons	Pam Strong	Morning

More details will be coming soon as these and new classes begin this fall.