

TLC Children, Youth and Family Handbook 2023-2024



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sundays

8:15-10:45am Nursery (6-weeks to 3-years-old)
8:15am Bible Study with preaching pastor
9:30am Worship & Sunday School
10:30am Fellowship & Adult Education or Intergenerational Events

Wednesdays

6:00-8:00pm Nursery
6:30pm Confirmation & Club 56 with Peer Ministers, Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:00pm High School Hangout

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: BIRTH TO 4TH GRADE

BAPTISM

In Matthew 28 Jesus says, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In this gift of God's grace, by water and God's Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world! As they bring their children to receive the gift of baptism, parents and guardians are entrusted to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer. Baptismal sponsors promise to nurture children in the Christian faith and help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church. Baptisms can be scheduled on almost any Sunday and one meeting with a pastor will be arranged prior to the baptism. Contact Pastor Elise Pokel at pastorelise@tlcmn.com.

WORSHIP & NURSERY

We love to be all together in worship! Children can be taught to pray, stand and sit with others during worship, listen to music and learn songs, come forward when there is children's story time, and receive Holy Communion or a blessing. Our sanctuary PrayGround is equipped with pillows, books, fidgets, coloring materials, and a new worship bulletin each week. Our nursery is staffed by childcare workers from our Early Learning Center and is open on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children ages 3 through grade 4 meet on Sundays at 9:30am in classrooms, and join their families in worship during the sharing of the peace.

FAITH MILESTONE MINISTRY

Transfiguration Lutheran Church has a long history of celebrating faith milestones, and we will be reigniting that tradition over the course of the year! A faith milestone is a marker along life's journey that says, "This is something important, and God is here, too!" Some of the faith milestones we will celebrate this year include Baptisms, Confirmation, Bible Sunday, Holy Communion Instruction, and Graduation. If you are interested in creating meaningful milestone experiences for children, youth, and even adults, contact Deacon Erica Larson at elarson@tlcmn.com.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Date	Story & Scripture Passage	Additional Information
9/17	Adam and Eve (<i>Genesis 2:4-25</i>)	
9/24	The First Sin (<i>Genesis 3:1-24</i>)	Bible Faith Milestone in Worship
10/1	Joseph and His Brothers (<i>Genesis 37:1-28</i>)	
10/8	Baby Moses (<i>Exodus 2:1-10</i>)	
10/15	The Burning Bush (<i>Exodus 3:1-15</i>)	
10/22	Manna, Quail, and Water (<i>Exodus 16:1-18; 17:1-7</i>)	
10/29	Deborah (<i>Judges 4:1-5:31</i>)	
11/5	God Calls Samuel (<i>1 Samuel 3:1-20</i>)	
11/12	David is Chosen (<i>1 Samuel 16:1-13</i>)	
11/19	Queen Esther (<i>Esther 2:5-18; 3:1-6; 8:1-17</i>)	
11/26	Daniel and the Lions (<i>Daniel 6:1-28</i>)	
12/3	Angels Visit (<i>Luke 1:26-38</i>)	Practice Christmas Songs
12/10	Mary Visits Elizabeth (<i>Luke 1:39-58</i>)	Practice Christmas Songs
12/17	Jesus Is Born (<i>Luke 2:1-20</i>)	Practice Christmas Songs
12/24	Christmas Eve – NO CLASS	Worship times TBD
12/31	Simeon and Anna (<i>Luke 2:22-40</i>)	
1/7	The Boy at the Temple (<i>Luke 2:41-52</i>)	
1/14	John the Baptist (<i>Luke 3:1-18</i>)	
1/21	Jesus Goes to Nazareth (<i>Luke 4:14-30</i>)	
1/28	The Disciples (<i>Luke 5:1-11; 8:1-3</i>)	
2/4	Four Friends (<i>Luke 5:17-26</i>)	
2/11	Ten Men Healed (<i>Luke 17:11-19</i>)	
2/18	The Good Samaritan (<i>Luke 10:25-37</i>)	
2/25	The Lost Sheep & Lost Coin (<i>Luke 15:1-10</i>)	
3/3	The Prodigal Son (<i>Luke 15:1-3, 11-32</i>)	
3/10	Mary and Martha (<i>Luke 10:38-42</i>)	
3/17	Zacchaeus (<i>Luke 19:1-10</i>)	
3/24	Palm Sunday Holy Week & The Last Supper (<i>Luke 19:28-40; 22:14-23:56; John 13:1-20</i>)	
3/31	Easter – NO CLASS	Worship at 8am & 9:30am
4/7	The Empty Tomb (<i>Luke 24:1-12</i>)	
4/14	The Road to Emmaus (<i>Luke 24:13-35</i>)	
4/21	The Holy Spirit (<i>Acts 2:1-4, 36-42</i>)	
4/28	Early Believers (<i>Acts 2:43-47; 4:32-37</i>)	
5/5	Lydia (<i>Acts 16:9-15</i>)	
5/12	Paul and Silas (<i>Acts 16:16-40</i>)	
5/19	Paul and the Philippians (<i>Philippians 1:1-14</i>)	Confirmation Sunday

YOUTH MINISTRY: 5TH - 12TH GRADE

CLUB 56

Growing in faith doesn't end in 4th grade! It's a lifelong journey, and our 5th-6th graders continue their journey on Wednesday nights, beginning with pizza and fellowship at 6:30pm. We will learn, serve, play, grow, and worship together in an intentional community where we are committed to creating a safe space for our youth and their friends to explore the bible, faith, and life. We also hope that our 5th-6th graders will join their families for worship on Sunday mornings and share their gifts and time by greeting, ushering, lighting candles, and reading scripture.

CONFIRMATION

Vision and Goals

Confirmation is a time to uncover the mystery of God's promises and presence in our lives. It is a time to affirm the promises made in baptism and say YES to the God who first said yes to us. Our goal is that every student will:

- Know that faith is a journey lived in a community experiencing fellowship, service, worship, and prayer, while entering into one another's joy and suffering

- Experience scripture as a living example of God's ongoing and faithful promises
- Experience Jesus as a friend and model of a faithful life
- Experience the Holy Spirit as the very real and mysterious presence of God at work in the world
- Think about their gifts and talents and how they can be used to love and serve others

Worship, Learning Experiences, and Expectations

Our Confirmation youth gather from 6:30-8pm on Wednesday nights for pizza, fellowship, games, small groups, service projects, and conversations about the Bible, Luther's Small Catechism, safe and healthy relationships, vocation, spiritual gifts, and important life questions. Friends are welcome! After the first visit, we ask friends to bring back a completed Registration Form and Medical Form if they'd like to continue their participation.

Confirmation is a time for our youth to take responsibility for their own faith journey, and their commitment to participate in a community comes with expectations that will encourage conversation and accountability. We ask our youth to:

- Actively participate in worship on Sunday mornings and Confirmation on Wednesday nights.
- Complete 9 Worship Reflections each year. This can happen during worship at TLC, at another church, or when watching our worship services online. If you are worshipping at home or at another church, you can fill out our Google Form Worship Reflection page: <https://forms.gle/NorRMq2LuokzC3F49>
- Serve our church and community

We want you here as often as possible! But we understand that families have commitments outside of this faith community and we want to support you in all aspects of your faith and daily life. We have independent learning options for youth who must be absent for extended periods of time.

Affirmation of Baptism

In 9th grade, our confirmation youth will write a Faith Statement, have a Faith Conversation with Deacon Erica Larson, and experience a special confirmation gathering in preparation for the Confirmation Worship Service. The 2024 service is on Sunday, May 19, 9:30am!

YOUTH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

September:

- 9/20 Youth Ministry Kickoff & Orientation
- 9/24 Bible Faith Milestone
- 9/27 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH

October:

- 10/4 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 10/11 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 10/18 MEA – Optional Game & Movie Night
- 10/25 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH

November:

- 11/1 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 11/8 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 11/15 Youth Service Project Night
- 11/22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie, 6:30pm
- 11/29 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH

December:

- 12/3 Intergenerational Christmas Festival
- 12/6 Advent Worship, 6:30pm
Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH,
7pm
- 12/13 Advent Worship, 6:30pm
Youth Christmas Party, 7pm
- 12/20 Advent Worship, 6:30pm
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Worship
- 12/27 No programming: Winter Break

January:

- 1/3 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 1/10 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 1/17 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 1/24 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 1/31 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH

February & March

- 2/7 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 2/14 Ash Wednesday Worship, 6:30pm
- 2/2-3/20 Lent Worship, 6:30pm
Mentor Meetings, 7:00pm
- 3/24 Palm Sunday Worship, 9:30am
- 3/28 Maundy Thursday Worship, 6:30pm
- 3/29 Children's Good Friday Worship, 10:30am
Good Friday Worship, 7:00pm
- 3/31 Easter Sunday Worship, 8:00am & 9:30am

April

- 4/3 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 4/10 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 4/17 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 4/24 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH

May:

- 5/1 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 5/8 Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, HSH
- 5/15 Youth Spring Party

Peer Ministry

TLC Peer Ministry offers leadership and community connection for post-confirmation students. Peer Ministers model the faith journey and engage in activities with younger children and youth in the congregation. They also have opportunities for training and Peer Ministry gatherings outside of their leadership commitments.

FAMILY MINISTRY AND SUMMER EXPERIENCES

We believe that faith formation happens primarily in families. At Transfiguration Lutheran Church, we see our role as one of partnering with families in fulfilling the promises made at baptism. We are all on this journey together!

Some ways to partner in ministry...

- Make Sunday School, Club 56, Confirmation, Peer Ministry, and high school involvement a priority!
- Worship together at TLC as a family. Read the Bible and pray together at home.
- Participate in the many opportunities for worship, fellowship, and service at TLC.
- Find a good fit for your gifts and passions. In what ways can you contribute to our community? In addition to our ministries with children and youth, there are many opportunities throughout the congregation to be involved in meaningful ways!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

3-year-old through 6th grade grads enjoy five days of worship, Bible stories, games, snacks, crafts and adventure; and 7th-12th grade grads and adults serve as leaders! VBS 2024 is June 10-14, 9:00am-12:00pm.

LAKE WAPOGASSET LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP

We encourage Bible camp for ALL because it helps our youth grow in their faith, and creates a tight knit community. Camp includes Bible studies, worship, campfires, swimming, games, cabin activities, arts & crafts, and so much more! Information about Family Camp, Grandparent/Kid Camp, and the summer theme coming soon.

2024 WAPO DATES: *Seeds Camp (1st-3rd grade grads), June 21-23*
 Youth (4th-9th grade grads) & Senior High (10th-12th grade grads), June 23-28

WILDERNESS CANOE BASE

All ages can stay at Wilderness Canoe Base for **Family Camp**, where you'll have options such as day trips paddling canoes, a night out on trail, rock climbing, swimming, campfires, worship, crafts, hiking and more. It's a great option for families. A traditional **Canoe Trip** takes you out on trail to paddle and portage, swim, fish, sleep in tents, cook over a campfire, and experience life in the BWCA. 6th-12th grade grads and adults can participate in a Canoe Trip. If you have an interest in Family Camp or a Canoe Trip, please contact Deacon Erica Larson.

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

Every three years, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America holds their annual **ELCA Youth Gathering**. In the summer of 2024, the gathering will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana or as it is often affectionately called NOLA. This is an amazing time to worship with approximately 30,000 other youth and adults from around the world! There will be times of service, fellowship and worship throughout the four days we are in NOLA. With travel, the trip dates will likely be July 14-20. Current 8th-12th grade youth can register, and will commit to participating in fundraisers and monthly gatherings for team building and preparation.

Transfiguration Lutheran Church

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Transfiguration is a welcoming and diverse intergenerational community of faith committed to following the way of Jesus by pursuing spiritual growth, love of neighbor, justice for all.

