



RISEN SAVIOR

LUTHERAN CHURCH

MY HANDBOOK

Confirmation: The Family-Centered Approach

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Why Do It This Way?

Every year there are hundreds of students confirmed across our national church body. Yet, recent studies looking at weekend worship services have discovered that you would notice only a handful of this same age group. Confirmation is intended to be a time of focused study. The Lutheran church traditionally holds God's Word at the highest value. Pastors lectured and students passed the tests...but after the Confirmation program the majority of them disappeared. Is there something within the Confirmation program that could be adjusted? Is there direction about Confirmation from God in His Word?

Confirmation is not in the Bible. Confirmation does not provide grace and healing of our sins. Only Jesus' sacrifice on the cross given to us through his Word and Sacraments (Baptism & Lord's Supper) are promised by God to create and strengthen faith. Jesus instructs his disciples of every age to live their faith in the world by Baptizing and Teaching people everything Jesus has commanded us (Matthew 28:19,20). This is the priority within Confirmation...to know, understand, and be equipped to articulate the basics of the God's Word to anyone we may meet.

Ephesians 4:11-12 highlights God's desire for Pastors to lead and equip God's people. Once equipped...believers would do acts of service (ministry) that build up God's people. It is through these verses that our church is called by Christ to guide, aid and equip parents for their calling to train and share the basics of God's Word with their children (Deuteronomy 6 & Ephesians 6).

Confirmation will be a program that brings parents and students closer to God and closer to each other. To accomplish this...we will provide a Biblically grounded, practical, and flexible family spiritual growth process so that having been guided by the church and led by their parents, the youth of Risen Savior will make the transition to be faithful, active, young Christian adults.

What Will We Do?

Part I: Weekly Lessons

Each month the directors of Confirmation will send out the set of weekly lessons for parents and students to go through. Please plan for approximately 90 minutes a week. Lessons and homework will be due by the following Sunday and reviewed by the following Wednesday. As always...directors are available through phone/email for help. The weekly lesson will typically follow this pattern:

YOUR CONFIRMATION TEAM DEFINITIONS

DIRECTOR: PROGRAM LEADERS
PARENT: SPIRITUAL LEADERS OF FAMILY
STUDENT: CHILD BEING INSTRUCTED

- ◆ **Teaching on the Basic Bible Truth for the Week**
 - Approximately 30 minutes of Bible truth lesson content – see “*Bible Themes Covered*” in *Appendix* for complete list of content
 - Approximately 30 minutes for discussion between Parent & Student

- ◆ **Sermon Summary**
 - A big part of being a growing Christian is weekly worship at church.
 - The sermon summary will help students become active listeners and retain some key information from the sermon.
 - There will be sermon summary sheets available.
 - The sermon summary can be based on any other church service you attended at any other church.
 - You may complete the summary by watching an online sermon.

- ◆ **Memorization**
 - Very Important Passages & Very Important Chapters (VIP/VICs)
 - VIPs are important passages that summarize major teachings of the Bible. Having these passages in your memory allows you to be able to use it in real life. Learn VIPs so that when asked the description you would be able to say the reference and the entire passage.
 - VICs are important chapters throughout the Bible. Knowing where some of the familiar stories are in the Bible helps people feel more comfortable with using the Bible. Learn VICs so that when asked the description you would be able to say the book and chapter.
 - *The VIP/VIC list is available in the Appendix*
 - Books of the Bible
 - Memorizing Books of the Bible helps people find passages more quickly when using their Bible.
 - There are several difference songs to help you memorize the Books of the Bible in order.

Part II: Monthly Rooted to the Family (RTF)

Once a month...parents and students will come together for a review of the previous content and to look ahead at upcoming lessons. This group time allows your family to get to know other families that are part of the Catechism program. Typically, Rooted to the Family nights include:

- ◆ **Parent/Student Quiz**
 - The odd numbers are completed by the students and the even numbers are completed by parents.
 - Parents and students may discuss questions together.
 - Please do not use notes or Bibles on the quiz.

- ◆ **Small Group & Big Group Discussion**
 - Each round table will have time to go through some discussion questions based on the previous month's content.
 - There will be time to ask questions of the director.

- ◆ **Introduction to Content**

Part III: Monthly Service Duty

Each student is uniquely gifted by God with abilities that will benefit other Christians in Jesus' Church (Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4, 1 Peter 4). As students get older they need guidance in discovering and appreciating the unique way in which they are gifted. *Service Duties* are one way they can explore volunteer opportunities at Risen Savior and discover what they are passionate about and how they are uniquely gifted to serve.

- ◆ Generally, in the fall we will share a sign-up for various service duties.
- ◆ Some of the service duties require the assistance of a parent and involve caring for children.
- ◆ If you have a monthly volunteer opportunity available to you in the community, please ask a director if this could count towards your monthly service duty.
- ◆ The Service Duty List and Explanation is in *the Appendix*.

Part IV: Monthly Projects

Each student will be required to complete projects during the time between each *RTF* night. Projects will be assigned at one *RTF* and are due at the next *RTF*. A number of suggested projects will be listed, each with a point value. Each student is required to accumulate ten (10) points worth of projects for the next *RTF*. Be careful that the projects don't wait until the last minute! These are designed to allow more time flexibility...as well as pursuit of personal interests. Categories include:

- ◆ Book reports
- ◆ Creative writing and research
- ◆ Family activity
- ◆ Service duty (*see above*)
- ◆ Memory work (outside of VICs & VIPs)

Part V: Quizzes & Tests

In Christ we are a new creation that longs to do what is good and right for the glory of God. Yet, in this world we still have a sinful nature that loves to rebel against God. We are directed by God to spur one another on toward love and good deeds so we will have monthly quizzes and an annual review test. The goal is not to evaluate your faith. Only God knows what is in going on in your heart. The goal of the quizzes and tests is for accountability and to identify if there are some areas that you are wrestling with so we can help clarify.

- ◆ Quizzes and tests happen at Rooted to the Family
- ◆ Parents and students quiz and test together
 - It's our way of verifying that material is being worked on with parents and students.
 - Can share with each other during the quiz/test.
 - No notes or Bibles necessary.
- ◆ Content covered
 - Content from weekly lessons
 - VIPs/VICs (*cumulative...once you've had them assigned they are fair game for any quiz/text that year*)

Part VI: Annual Retreat (future)

We start the year...within the first month of Confirmation...with a retreat. With so many students from different local schools, we've found this is a great way for the students to breakdown all barriers and really get to know each other and us as the Catechism directors. Highlights of the retreat include:

- ◆ Team building activities through fun games;
- ◆ 3-4 different Bible studies;
- ◆ Memories that last a lifetime.

Part VII: Confirmation Examination

At the end of each year, the students will be given a review sheet for parents and students to review the main content covered in Catechism. Second year students will be receiving a review sheet that covers both years of content. This review sheet will include everything need for the yearly review test...including VICs, VIPs, and other memory work.

- ◆ A yearly review will be scheduled for the end of the year (half of the questions for students, half for parents).
- ◆ 2nd year Catechism students will also have to write an essay on their favorite Bible passage.
- ◆ Prepared by the review examination, 2nd year students will lead the congregation in a review of the Christian faith by answering questions on Confirmation Sunday.

**Part VIII:
Confirmation
Ceremony**

Confirmation is a strengthening of your faith through the Holy Spirit at work in the Word. The *Confirmation Ceremony* is a time when you publicly declare that you would rather die than reject Jesus as your Savior and that you desire to be a confirmed member of Risen Savior Lutheran Church. Following the Confirmation Ceremony...you may join us regularly for the Lord's Supper.

The Confirmation Ceremony is about your public declaration of faith. Your parent(s) or guardian(s), you, and the congregation will go through a responsive reading during the ceremony. Students will have selected a Bible passage that is especially meaningful to them and that passage will be shared publicly by the pastor during the service.

Families typically have a party to celebrate this event with extended family as a time to highlight the importance of the Holy Spirit's work in their child's life. This celebration is a great way to show continued family support for their child as they look ahead at growing their faith in the high school years.

The Confirmation Ceremony does not mean that you are done studying Scripture or growing closer to God. Having been confirmed you will be compelled to "*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus*" (1 Thessalonians 5:16). This means playing a more active role at Risen Savior and continuing in regular, weekly attendance. May God bless you as you continue to follow Jesus Christ, your risen Lord and Savior.

Who Does What?

Deuteronomy 6 tells us to take up the commandments of the Lord and “*impress the on our children*”. A love of Jesus Christ is truly a lifelong gift for your child...and you need only lead by example.

Our desire is to aid you with being an example to your child by providing you with a curriculum that you can work through together. This will help your child confirm their faith and instill some life-long spiritual habits.

Director’s Responsibility

1. Communication with parents and students
 - a. Respond to questions with 24 hours
 - b. Calendar of assignments with RTF dates for the year
 - c. Welcome email with new year orientation information
2. Curriculum
 - a. Bible-centered and parent friendly
 - b. Print format (*future: online format*)
 - c. Review games to help with memory work
3. Community
 - a. Enlist families to start the confirmation process
 - b. Equip parents to instruct their children in the way of the Lord
 - c. Encourage parents and students to continue lifelong spiritual habits
 - d. Work alongside parents to empower students to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ
 - e. Meet once a month for quiz and content introduction

Parent’s Responsibility

1. Modeling
 - a. Parents...bring your child up in the way of the Lord (Deuteronomy 6:6-9 & Ephesians 6:4). You will set the tone for this program. Joy is contagious!
 - b. Pick a couple of times during the week that you can work with your child on your lesson and review for quizzes and tests.
 - c. Be available for *ALL* RTFs.
 - d. Bring your child to serve their monthly service duty.
2. Work together
 - a. Reading/listening through the material
 - b. Brainstorming appropriate answers for questions
 - i. Allow discussion time to answer questions
 - ii. Share your testimony of faith through a few stories from your life – it is okay to be vulnerable and share

- times God led you through poor choices or forgave you of the sins of the past
- iii. Be honest when you don't know something and search for it together (*your blue Luther's Catechism and the director are good resources*)
- c. New Memory Work (VIPs/VICs)
 - i. Brainstorm memory catches (Ex.: *Genesis 11 looks like two walls of a building. The Tower of Babel is in Genesis 11*).
 - ii. Make use of lesson content
 - iii. Study a couple of times before bed and/or in the car
- d. Review old memory work (have fun with it, be creative, use games, and talk about it during car rides)

**Student
Responsibility**

1. Follow your parent's spiritual instruction (Ephesians 6:1-2)
2. Be a learner of Jesus (Proverbs 4:5,6)
 - a. Reading/listening through the material
 - b. Brainstorming appropriate answers for the questions
 - c. Sharing your testimony of faith from your life experiences. It is okay to open up with your parent about anything. They love you and want what's best for you.
 - d. Be honest when you don't know something and search for it together (*the director is a good resource*)
 - e. Put the Word to memory and application (VIPs/VICs)...5-15 minutes every other day.
3. Serve others (Philippians 2:1-4)
 - a. Be available for all Rooted to the Family (RTF)
 - b. Get involved – discussion and quizzes
 - c. Complete at least 1 Service Duty a month

Frequently Asked Questions

1. "I don't know enough about the Bible. I'm not an expert."
 - ◆ The Confirmation program is meant to cover the basics of Christianity. If feeling a little nervous about knowing content, consider the class as a good time to review truths that God wants you to know and share. Content is guided material that does a good job clarifying and teaching these Bible basics. The director is only a call or email away to help with further clarification.

2. "Isn't teaching Confirmation the pastor's job? Why are parent's teaching?"
 - ◆ In keeping with Ephesians 4:11,12...the pastor's role is to equip God's people for ministry. The director, through this program, will equip parents for their important home ministry with their children.

3. "What if I'm too busy?"
 - ◆ *"For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come"* (1 Timothy 4:8). Beginning with the first commandment we are reminded that it is God who created, redeemed, and preserves all people and he rightly deserves first place in our life. It is our cultural norm to be constantly running. We'd highly recommend looking through your schedule and highlight things that last the longest and are most valuable. God, family, work, and friends take priority.

4. "What if I have custody of my child every other week?"
 - ◆ We can sit down with you and work out a plan so you can participate in the Catechism program.

5. "Do I have to be at *Rooted to the Family*? What if I have other obligations?"
 - ◆ *Rooted to the Family* is an essential part of the class and attendance is required. If there are special circumstances the director can excuse families...depending on the situation.
 - ◆ We have had students who were involved in extracurricular activities that fall on the same night as RTF. If this happens to you...please let the coach know ahead of time that you will be at a Catechism class. It is teachable moment to highlight how

valuable God is in your life. If coaches give you any grief...we're happy to write a letter excusing you.

6. "What if I am late or miss an assignment, service duty, Rooted to the Family, etc.?"
 - ◆ The director will reach out with an email or phone call if there is lost or missing homework. If more than 3 assignments are missing the director will meet with your family to consider the next steps.

7. "How will my child get to know his classmates and/or pastor?"
 - ◆ The Confirmation retreat (*future*), Rooted to the Family nights, and other youth events allow an opportunity to get to know other students and the pastor. Weekend worship/Bible class also allows opportunity to connect with people in the Catechism program.

8. "My child doesn't want to do the assignments with me, what do I do?"
 - ◆ Consider some of the reasons he/she is not excited about the work. Is there something he/she doesn't understand? Does your child understand the benefits to knowing God's Word (peace, forgiveness, guidance, etc.)? Do you as a parent model excitement about it or is it a struggle for you?
 - ◆ Consider small breaks in between studying.
 - ◆ Have one big thing you do together to celebrate when a lesson is complete (ex.: ice-cream, Nerf war, etc.)
 - ◆ Reach out to the director to brainstorm some ideas.

9. "What happens if my child doesn't take this class?"
 - ◆ Children in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade usually participate in the Catechism program. We have students who are older in the class and found it to be a blessing regardless of the age. If your child is not ready for the class this year...that is okay (we have had families start the program and then decide to wait one more year until their child was more ready). He/she is welcome to join us the next year.

Appendix

Class Resources

Throughout the Catechism program we will make use of several resources including the Bible, Luther's Catechism, and online material. Please have available for the class the following:

- ◆ NIV Bible or Bible app (self-study Bibles can be helpful...if you would like to purchase one we recommend the *NIV Life Application Bible*)
- ◆ *Luther's Catechism: Anniversary Edition* ©2017 Northwestern Publishing House. Available for purchase through Risen Savior.
- ◆ *Catechism Connections: Expressions of My Faith* ©2017 Northwestern Publishing House. Provided for you by Risen Savior.
- ◆ Online access (if unavailable, please contact the director)

The Bible themes covered in this class

The basics of the Bible covered within confirmation include but are not limited to the list below. These topics will be covered over the two-year Catechism course.

- ◆ Why are we here? Who is Martin Luther and what is Catechism?
- ◆ How do I know there is a god?: Natural & Revealed Knowledge of God
- ◆ The Bible: Just another book?: Three Important Law Purposes; Law & Gospel
- ◆ Product of chance or loving design? Created & Preserved
- ◆ Who is Jesus of Nazareth?: Person & Office
- ◆ Why born of a virgin? Jesus My Substitute & Redeemed for a Purpose
- ◆ Did Jesus really rise from the dead? Steps of Exaltation
- ◆ Is Jesus really coming back on January 1, 2017?: What happens at death and Judgment Day
- ◆ Are you born again? Where does faith come from? The Work of the Holy Spirit
- ◆ Should you baptize your children?: The Sacraments; Blessings of Baptism & Baby Baptism
- ◆ Why "holy" communion? Elements, Blessings & Close Communion
- ◆ Priorities & Mouth (1st & 2nd Commandments)
- ◆ Authority & Life Issues (3rd-5th Commandments)
- ◆ Marriage & Sexuality; God's High Calling for Men & Women; Marriage & Priorities of Husband/Wife (6th Commandment)
- ◆ Money, Time, Gossip, Contentment (7th-10th Commandments)
- ◆ What makes a church a "good" church?: Characteristics & Picking a Church

Very Important Chapters (VICs)

Creation: Genesis 1
Marriage: Genesis 2
Fall into Sin: Genesis 3

Cain & Abel: Genesis 4
The Flood: Genesis 6-9
Tower of Babel: Genesis 11

Abraham: Genesis 12
Sodom & Gomorrah: Genesis 19
Abraham Tested: Genesis 22

Jacob's Ladder: Genesis 28
Joseph's Colorful Coat: Genesis 37
Joseph Rules: Genesis 41

Baby Moses: Exodus 2
The Burning Bush: Exodus 3-4
The Passover: Exodus 12
The 10 Commandments: Exodus 20

Jericho's Walls Fall: Joshua 6
David & Goliath: 1 Samuel 17
David & Bathsheba: 2 Samuel 11-12

Solomon's Wisdom: 1 Kings 3
Chariots of Fire: 2 Kings 2
Good Shepherd Psalm: Psalm 23
God – Refuge & Strength: Psalm 46

The "Hills" Psalm: Psalm 121
Christ Our Substitute: Isaiah 53
The Sermon on the Mount: Matt. 5-7

The Marks of a Disciple: Matthew 10
Church Discipline: Matthew 18
Jesus on Marriage & Divorce: Matt. 19

Signs of the End of Times: Matthew 24-25
The Lord's Supper: Matthew 26
The Resurrection: Matthew 28

Christmas: Luke 2
The Good Samaritan: Luke 10
The "Lost" Chapter: Luke 15

Palm Sunday: Luke 19
Maundy Thurs./Good Friday: Luke 22-23
Jesus' First Miracle: John 2

Jesus Feeds the 5,000: John 6
Jesus, the Good Shepherd: John 10
Christ's High-Priestly Prayer: John 17

Ascension: Acts 1
Pentecost: Acts 2
Saul's Conversion: Acts 9

Righteous through Faith: Romans 3
More than Conquerors: Romans 8
Government: Romans 13

Marriage, Divorce, Single: 1 Cor. 7
"Agape" Love Chapter: 1 Cor. 13
Paul's "Resurrection" Chapter: 1 Cor. 15

The Roles in Marriage: Ephesians 5
Instructions on Worship: 1 Timothy 2
The Antichrist: 2 Thessalonians 2

Heroes of Faith: Hebrews 11
Taming the Tongue: James 3
Christ's Second Coming: 2 Peter 3
Heaven: Revelation 21

Very Important Passages (VIPs)

The Gospel in a Nutshell :: John 3:16 – For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

What It Takes to Be a Disciple :: John 8:31 – Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you really my disciples.”

Our Mission :: Matthew 28:18-20 – Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

God and His Word Don't Change :: Malachi 3:6 – “I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.”

All the Bible is God's Word :: 2 Timothy 3:16-17 – All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Reason for the Bible :: John 20:31 – But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in your name.

Definition of Faith :: Hebrews 11:1 – Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

All Works for God's Good :: Romans 8:28 – And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Jesus Paid for All Sins :: 1 John 2:2 – He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Original Sin :: Psalm 51:5 – Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Jesus, the Only Way :: John 14:6 – Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Faith Comes from Hearing the Message :: Romans 10:17 – Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Inspiration :: 2 Peter 1:21 – For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

God's Great Exchange :: 2 Corinthians 5:21 – God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Saved by Faith Alone :: Ephesians 2:8,9 – For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

Church Attendance :: Hebrews 10:24,25 – And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

God Wants All People to Be Saved :: 1 Timothy 2:4 – [God] wants all people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth.

Baptism Saves :: Titus 3:5 – He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

Being Unworthy at the Lord's Table :: 1 Corinthians 11:27 – Whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

Be Prepared to Give an Answer :: 1 Peter 3:15 – But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

Who to Go to in Time of Need :: Psalm 50:15 – And call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.

Think Before You Speak :: James 1:19 – My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

God's Word will Always Accomplish Its Purpose :: Isaiah 55:11 – So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Word of God is Active :: Hebrews 4:12 – for the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Dating Rules :: 1 Corinthians 6:19,20 – Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

Don't Lust :: Matthew 5:28 – But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Marriage Should Be Honored :: Hebrews 13:4 – Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and the sexual immoral.

Choose Friends Carefully :: Proverbs 13:20 – Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

Against Pride :: 1 Corinthians 10:12 – So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall.

Warning a False Prophet :: Titus 3:10 – Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them.

Don't be Joined with Unbelievers :: 2 Corinthians 6:14 – Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

**Monthly Service
Duty: Video
Recording**

People from across our country watch recorded videos of Risen Savior's sermons. This is one way Jesus keeps us connected as the body of Christ through his Word. You have a **one-time opportunity** to learn how the sermon is recorded by shadowing (follow/observe) the person who is scheduled to do the recording at one of our Sunday services. They will teach you how to make sure the camera is up and running, how to make sure the camera is focused in the correct spot, and how to turn on and off the recording for the sermon.

If...after having this opportunity...you would like to be regularly scheduled to take care of the video recording, please speak to Brad Rife or Melissa Lopez.

Arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to the worship service.

**Monthly Service
Duty: Nursery**

If you love little children this service duty is for you. Come with your parent and spend an hour playing with children 4 years and under of our church.

- ◆ Please arrive at 9:30am for the pre-service meeting with pastor. Most services will have scheduled volunteers from whom you are available to learn. ***The nursery room is the Mark Room (first classroom on the right).***
- ◆ Most children are familiar with the nursery and play well with others. Occasionally, there are those who cry when their parents leave, help them by getting them involved in an activity – for example: reading a story, playing with cars, etc. Please interact with children by reading Bible stories, singing songs, and don't forget to mention Jesus and his love for children. Model Christ-like patience and love.
- ◆ Keep children in the large classroom, for the most part.
- ◆ Please keep children off of the tables and from running around so no one gets hurt! Facilitate SAFE play, no hitting or biting, and no throwing toys. Please keep the door closed so that children are not running out into the entryway.
- ◆ Please put away the toys in their proper place at the end of your nursery service. Leave the room as (or better than) you found it. Wipe down tables, and vacuum if needed.
- ◆ If you are not able to help for the shift for which you are scheduled, please switch with another student as we need your help.
- ◆ Finally and most importantly, do not let a child leave without a parent or responsible adult. Stay until all children are picked up.

**Monthly Service
Duty: Ushers**

Join the ushers on a Sunday to see if this form of service is right for you. Church ushering is a form of ministry. It plays a very important role in assisting and promoting worship. These guidelines have been prepared as an aid in understanding and performing the ushering ministry in a serving way. Please contact Missy Lopez (church office) to schedule a Sunday you would like to usher with your dad or one of the other ushers on duty that day.

The goals of ushering:

- ◆ to prepare people for worship by arranging a setting that lends itself to worship;
- ◆ to maintain order and decency as we worship God;
- ◆ to help in administration of the Word and Sacraments;
- ◆ to establish friendliness to all worshippers, especially to guests and visitors so they feel comfortable, are happy they came to visit and are left with a good impression about our congregation so they will want to return to visit.

Before the service:

- ◆ **arrive at 9:30am** for the pre-service meeting with pastor;
- ◆ look for other ushers and see if there is anything with which you can help them;
- ◆ greet all worshippers with a “Good Morning!” and a smile;
- ◆ distribute service folders: ushers are generally stationed in the middle of the fellowship hall;
- ◆ if you are asked to count (larger services), have 2 separate ushers count people (including tiny infants, those in the nursery, all the ushers, and anyone in the entryway) during the first part of the service. Compare your counts. Report the number to pastor.

After the service:

- ◆ pick up service folders left in the seats and place them in the green recycle bin in the kitchen;
- ◆ pick up debris on the seats and floor and deposit in a waste container;
- ◆ put personal items left behind (glasses, purses, books, etc.) in the lost and found area (on top of the mailbox in the fellowship hall)

**Monthly Service
Duty: Greeters**

(Parent presence encouraged)

This important role is one of the first impressions for people visiting Risen Savior. Your warm smile and friendly handshake help people know that we are a caring congregation that wants to share the love of Jesus. Please contact Missy Lopez (church office) to schedule a Sunday you would like to greet with your parent/s or one of the other greeters on duty that day.

When it is your turn to be a greeter, here are some things to remember:

1. **Arrive at 9:30am** for the pre-service meeting with pastor;
2. Stand outside the main entrance doors to the building (unless the weather makes that unwise).
3. Smile and welcome all people with a handshake or a “good morning/evening”.
Remember: Just Be You!
Remember: Don't only talk to the people you know – new people need the welcome too!
4. After the service begins and people stop coming through the doors you may join your family for the church service.

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