FaithTrek

Children's Ministry for 3 Year Olds through 5th Gr ade November 2018



"Journey" is the Focus in November and December

Journey means traveling from one place to another. The Bible is filled with stories of people on a journey. The FaithTrek kids will be studying six different stories about people on a journey. Each Sunday morning we will read the story of one of the travelers, along with a craft project, drama or game. Activities vary by age group, but we will all be focusing on the same story each week.

- Abram and Sarai's Call
- Naomi and Ruth's Travels
- Moses, Aaron and Miriam and the Red Sea
- Elijah and the Widow
- Mary and Joseph Travel to Bethlehem
- The Wisemen and Jesus Escape to Egypt

Each of the travelers we study will have a lesson to teach us about being disciples. They say "a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step", which fits perfectly with FaithTrek, the first step in Christian education at First Lutheran.

Gift Giving Ideas for Baptismal Sponsors

Parents, the congregation and Baptismal Sponsors all commit to help the child grow in their faith. Here are a few gift giving ideas that will help young disciples grow in their faith:

- Sparks' Story Bible A great story Bible aimed at grades 2-3 \$20
- How Full Is Your Bucket For Kids written by Tom Rath and First Lutheran member Mary Reckmeyer A great book teaching kids about supporting others.
- *I Wish You More* by Amy Klouse Rosenthal helps children see more ups than downs utilizing the repeating line of "I wish".
- Gift a gift that brings hope by purchasing a gift at the Gifts of Hope Alternative Market December 1 and 2 at First Lutheran.

What Does It Mean to Journey?

Journey means an act of traveling from one place to another. Over the holidays many families will journey to the home of family or friends or will have guests traveling to their home. Gather the family for a conversation about hospitality. Utilize the Christmas story of Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem as a jump start to your conversation on hospitality. You can find the story in Luke 2:1-5 in the Bible.

Discussion questions:

- How did Mary and Joseph get to Bethlehem? How do you get places?
- Did Mary and Joseph have a place to stay in Bethlehem? Why not? What did they do? Where do you stay when you go on a journey? Have you ever gone on a trip and were not able to find a place to stay at night?
- Hospitality means welcoming people. What do you do when you have company? Do you give guests a tour of your house? What about a place to sleep and food to eat? How do you make them comfortable so they have a good time at your house?
- Who came to greet the baby Jesus? Who serves as the greeters at your house?
- What happens when it is time for your friends to leave? Do you help them with their luggage? Do you help them pack their cars? What about hugs and waving goodbye?
- Make an action plan for your next journey and/or welcoming guests to your home.

Save the Date

Join the celebration in the Activity Center on Sunday, December 16, 9:30-10:30 am. With music, snacks and storytelling, we will celebrate Christmas. FaithTrek kids, accompany by a parent, will meet in the Activity Center instead of the Sanctuary. Friends and family are welcome.



Upcoming Events

Preschool and Elementary Age Youth Group

Sharon Hardel, Director of Youth and Family Ministry, coordinates a first Sunday of the month event for the FaithTrek age youth and families from 4:30-6:00 pm (potluck dinner follows). Joseph, from the Old Testament, and his family will be the center of the conversation at the November 4th event. See *The Voice* for more details.

First Communion Class

First Lutheran does not have an age requirement for first communion. Instead, we rely on families to determine when a child is ready for communion. A First Communion class will be offered by Pastor Dan on Saturday, November 17, 9:00-11:00 am. Bread baking, skits, scripture and conversation are all part of the morning adventure. Contact Pastor Dan to make a reservation.