



## What Does It Mean to Send Your Child(ren) to a Lutheran School?

*St. Paul's Lutheran School is a ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The church and school are a part of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS). You can expect:*

- **Memory Work:** Students will be required to memorize Bible verses and parts of Martin Luther's Small Catechism. This is often required weekly and incorporated into students' religion grades.
- **Religion Class:** Students participate in a daily religion class. Teachers use materials produced by Concordia Publishing House, LCMS publishing company. Students will learn Bible stories and Lutheran doctrine in religion class.
- **Confirmation Class:** Religion class in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade is called "Confirmation Class." In Confirmation Class, students gain a deeper understanding of Lutheran doctrine. In eighth grade, students have the option to be confirmed as a public statement of their faith. St. Paul's pastors provide students and families with information about the rite of confirmation.
- **Chapel Services:** Every Wednesday morning, our students worship together in chapel, a kid-friendly church service. Students sing songs, learn the liturgy, and listen to a message from a pastor. Our pastors will lead chapel services, as well as pastors from area LCMS churches. Each grade (1st-8th) leads a chapel service during the school year, too.
- **Participation in Worship Services:** Students are required to participate in church services at St. Paul's regularly scheduled services. Music groups and grade levels are assigned specific services to attend throughout the school year. They'll help lead the songs throughout the service. This participation is included in students' music grades.
- **Participation in Christmas Programs:** All students participate in Christmas programs. There are typically two Christmas programs: one for 1st-8th graders and one for preschoolers and kindergarteners. Students spend much of the second quarter of the school year preparing for these programs.
- **Religious Activities, Parties, and Faith Families:** Students are placed into Faith Families at the beginning of the school year. Faith Families consist of students across grade levels and are led by a teacher. Faith Families sit together during some chapel services and also engage in team-building activities throughout the school year. Additionally, classes will have Christmas parties.
- **Pastoral Involvement in the School:** St. Paul's Lutheran Church has two pastors. They are involved with the teaching of Confirmation and also visit classrooms during the school day. Sometimes, they coach a sport and/or lead a club after school. They are available to families who are seeking pastoral counsel.
- **Synodically Trained Teachers:** St. Paul's strives to employ synodically trained teachers. These teachers have attended a university in the Concordia University System or have completed extensive online coursework in Lutheran theology. These teachers are able to include religious components into secular curriculum throughout the subjects.
- **National Lutheran Schools Week:** Every year, Lutheran schools across the nation participate in National Lutheran Schools Week, a week-long celebration of the ministry of Lutheran schools. Many theme days, including activities & dress up days, are included during this week.