Confirmation:

Living and Growing Together

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Downers Grove, IL

OVERVIEW & FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM

* At the beginning of their journey each student will receive a Teen Study Bible that is theirs to keep and use throughout their time in confirmation and beyond.
* Class Participation is required. Each class will be taught multiple times to allow for students to have adequate opportunities to participate.
* Each year has a minimum of 15 experiences required to fulfill that year. There are multiple options and you only need to do a certain number from each section of that year. There are a couple required parts that will be part of everyone’s program. Parents sign off as the student completes each experience. Students are required to do a short reflection on each experience. After each completed section (15 experiences), Students meet with the pastor to discuss progress & what they learned/experienced.
* There is a mix of at-church options and at-home options.
* In addition to the required experiences each year, students are also required to complete 15 hours of volunteer work (no more than half of which can be worship related) and 4 sets of sermon notes each year. A worksheet for sermon notes is include in the resources at the end of this curriculum.
* All their work goes into a notebook/scrapbook at church to keep it in one place and track progress.
* There is a common file at church that has everything that they might need: resources lists, extra project instructions, copies of books or videos, etc.
* The Rite of Confirmation will be held annually with any students who are ready for that final step.
* For each part of a section, the student can come up with their own idea if it fits into the category. These must be done in conversation with the pastor.
* The teaching sections of the program are cyclical. If a student joins the program during year 1 their last year is year 4. If they join during year 2 their last year is year 1. Etc.

**Confirmation Progress Checklist**

Catechism

15 experiences are required.

Check the box when you've completed the experience.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Option # | **The Ten Commandments (2)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | Ten Commandments (Charlton Heston) |
|  | 3 | Memorization |
|  | 4 | Commandments in your own words |
|  | 5 | Write a paper |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
|  |  | **The Apostles’ Creed (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | Affirming the Apostles’ Creed |
|  | 3 | Congregation member  |
|  | 4 | YouTube video |
|  | 5 | Memorization  |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
|  |  | **The Lord’s Prayer (2)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | In your own words |
|  | 3 | Memorization |
|  | 4 | Congregation member |
|  | 5 | Create your own  |
|  |  | **Baptism (2)** |
|  | 1 | **[Required]** Your own baptism |
|  | 2 | Let the Children Come or Water Come Down  |
|  | 3 | Art work  |
|  | 4 | Memorization |
|  | 5 | History paper |
|  | 6 | Member of the congregation |
|  | 7 | Create your own |
|  |  | **Communion (2)** |
|  | 1 | Work of art  |
|  | 2 | First communion class |
|  | 3 | Memorization |
|  | 4 | A Place for You |
|  | 5 | Assist with communion  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 6 | Create your own  |
|  |  | **Confession (1)** |
|  | 1 | Work of art |
|  | 2 | Personal confession |
|  | 3 | Why confession is important |
|  | 4 | Memorization |
|  | 5 | Create your own |
|  |  | **Prayer (3)** |
|  | 1 | Examen Prayer  |
|  | 2 | Prayer Labyrinth |
|  | 3 | Centering Prayer |
|  | 4 | Prayer Beads |
|  | 5 | Consolation &Desolation |
|  | 6 | Lectio Divina |
|  | 7 | Prayer Stations |
|  | 8 | Memorization |
|  | 9 | Write your own Prayers |
|  | 10 | Create your own |

The Bible

15 experiences are required.

Check the box when you've completed the experience.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Option # | **Bible Overview (2)** |
|  | 1 | **[Required]** Bible Timeline  |
|  | 2 | Bible Project Videos |
|  | 3 | Create Your Own  |
|  |  | **Pentateuch (1)** |
|  | 1 | Read a full book |
|  | 2 | Art Project |
|  | 3 | Watch a movie |
|  | 4 | Bible Project Videos  |
|  | 5 | Create Your Own |
|  |  | **Prophets (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art Project |
|  | 2 | Read a Prophet |
|  | 3 | Watch a Movie |
|  | 4 | Bible Project Videos |
|  | 5 | Research a Prophet |
|  | 6 | Create Your Own |
|  |  | **Writings (1)** |
|  | 1 |  Read A Writings Book |
|  | 2 | Bible Project Videos |
|  | 3 | Art Project |
|  | 4 | Watch a Movie |
|  | 5 | Create Your Own |
|  |  | **Psalms & Proverbs (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art Project |
|  | 2 | Bible Projects Videos |
|  | 3 | Read 3 Psalms |
|  | 4 | Write a Psalm or Proverb |
|  | 5 | Create Your Own |
|  |  | **Jesus and the Gospels (2)** |
|  | 1 | **[Required]** Read a Gospel |
|  | 2 | Bible Project Videos |
|  | 3 | Watch a Jesus Movie |
|  | 4 | Interpret 2 Parables |
|  | 5 | Art Project  |
|  | 6 | Create Your Own |
|  |  | **The Book of Acts (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art Project |
|  | 2 | Bible Project Videos |
|  | 3 | Research an Apostle |
|  | 4 | Read Acts |
|  | 5 | Read a Book Based on Acts |
|  | 6 | Create Your Own |
|  |  | **The Apostle Paul (2)** |
|  | 1 | Art Project |
|  | 2 | Read an Epistle |
|  | 3 | Watch a Movie About Paul |
|  | 4 | Bible Project Videos  |
|  | 5 | Read a Book About Paul |
|  | 6 | Create Your Own  |

History & Lutheranism

15 experiences are required.

Check the box when you've completed the experience.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Option # | **Early Church History (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | Research a Saint  |
|  | 3 | Church History Movie |
|  | 4 | Religious Iconography Project |
|  | 5 | Research Religious Art |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
|  |  | **Reformation (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | 95 thesis research |
|  | 3 | Research church reformer |
|  | 4 | Reformation Movie |
|  | 5 | Reformation Videos  |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
|  |  | **Martin Luther (2)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | Martin Luther Book |
|  | 3 | Martin Luther Movie |
|  | 4 | 95 Thesis Research |
|  | 5 | Martin Luther Videos |
|  | 6 | Sermon, Letter, Lecture Project |
|  | 7 | Create your own  |
|  |  | **ELCA (2)** |
|  | 1 | Work of art  |
|  | 2 | ELCA social statements |
|  | 3 | The Story of the ELCA video  |
|  | 4 | Create your own  |
|  |  | **Lutheran Worship (2)** |
|  | 1 | Work of art |
|  | 2 | Work with Altar Guild  |  |  |
|  | 3 | Meeting with Betsy |
|  | 4 | Liturgical Calendar  |
|  | 5 | Usher/Greet |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
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|  |  | **Other Lutherans in America (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art Project  |
|  | 2 | Lutheran denomination research |
|  | 3 | LCMS or WELS worship |
|  | 4 | Create your own |

Other Denominations & World Religions

15 experiences are required.

Check the box when you've completed the experience.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Option # | **Catholicism (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | Research Catholic sacraments  |
|  | 3 | Attend Worship |
|  | 4 |  |
|  | 5 |  |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
|  |  | **Reformed (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | Attend Worship |
|  | 3 |  |
|  | 4 |  |
|  | 5 |  |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
|  |  | **Pentecostal & Cahrismatic (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | Attend Worship |
|  | 3 |  |
|  | 4 |  |
|  | 5 |  |
|  | 6 | Create your own  |
|  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |
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|  |  | **Baptist (1)** |
|  | 1 | Art work |
|  | 2 | Attend Worship |
|  | 3 |  |
|  | 4 |  |
|  | 5 |  |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
|  |  | **Other Denominations (1)** |
|  | 1 | Work of art  |
|  | 2 | Attend Worship |
|  | 3 |  |
|  | 4 |  |
|  | 5 |  |
|  | 6 | Create your own  |
|  |  | **Judaism (1)** |
|  | 1 | Work of art |
|  | 2 |  |
|  | 3 |  |
|  | 4 |  |
|  | 5 |  |
|  | 6 | Create your own |
|  |  | **Islam (1)** |
|  | 1 | Work of Art |
|  | 2 | 5 Pillars Research |
|  | 3 | Center for Christian-Muslim Engagement  |
|  | 4 |  |
|  | 5 |  |
|  | 6 | Create Your Own  |
|  |  | **Other World Religions (1)** |
|  | 1 | Work of Art |
|  | 2 | World Religion Research |
|  | 3 |  |
|  | 4 |  |
|  | 5 |  |
|  | 6 | Create your own |

**Year 1**

**Catechism**

 This year will have a special focus on the teachings of Martin Luther. Lessons will focus on the various chapters of Luther’s Small Catechism. Each lesson will focus on a different section of the Catechism. At the end of the year, each student should have an understanding of each section of the Small Catechism and the practical applications they have for our lives today. Year One and Year Three (History & Lutheranism) work together to help us understand the basics of faith and what it means to be specifically members of the ELCA.

To complete this year students are expected to attend 90% of lessons offered, and complete at least 15 experiences in the following areas:

**The Ten Commandments**

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Baptism**

**Communion**

**Confession**

**Prayer**

**The Ten Commandments**

Required: at least 2 experience from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create a work of art relating to the ten commandments. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Watch the movie The Ten Commandments starring Charlton Heston. Write a short review of the movie.
3. Memorize the Ten Commandment section of the Small Catechism and take the memory test.
4. Create a list of the Ten Commandments and their meanings in your own words. Upon completion discuss your list with Pastor Josh.
5. Write a one-page paper on the importance of the Ten Commandments in your life.
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the Apostles’ Creed. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

The Apostles’ Creed

Required: at least 1 experience from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create a work of art relating to the Apostles’ Creed. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Read the book *Affirming the Apostles’ Creed.* Write a short paper on what you learned from the book.
3. Talk to a member of the congregation about what the Apostles’ Creed means to them. Write two paragraphs about what you learned.
4. Watch YouTube video ‘What is the Apostles’ Creed?’ Write a couple paragraphs on what you learned. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m09UpBIzD7c>
5. Memorize the Apostles’ Creed section of the Small Catechism and take the memory test.
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the Apostles’ Creed. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

The Lord’s Prayer

Required: at least 2 experience from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create a work of art relating to the Apostles’ Creed. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Rewrite the Lord’s Prayer in your own words. Write a short description of why you chose to write each section the way you did.
3. Memorize the Lord’s Prayer section of the Small Catechism and take the memory test.
4. Talk to a member of the congregation about what the Lord’s Prayer means to them. Write two paragraphs about what you learned.
5. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the Lord’s Prayer. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Baptism

Required: at least 2 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. **[Required of all students]** Research your own baptism. When & where were you baptized? Do you have any artifacts or pictures? Who was there? What is the story? Why did your parents want you to be baptized? Ask your parents to help you. Create something about your baptism so you can share about it and remember it –a poster, a powerpoint presentation, a written story, etc.
2. Read “Let the Children Come” by Daniel Erlander. Write two paragraphs on what you learned and how it connects to your life.
3. Create a work of art relating to Baptism. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
4. Memorize the Baptism section of the Small Catechism and take the memory test.
5. Write a 1 page paper on the history and importance of baptism.
6. Interview a member of the congregation about their baptism. Write two paragraphs on what you learned from this experience.
7. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Baptism. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Communion

Required: at least 2 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create a work of art relating to Communion. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Assist Pastor Josh in leading a First Communion class, demonstrating your knowledge of communion by helping to teach younger youth. Debrief the experience with Pastor Josh afterwards.
3. Memorize the Communion section of the Small Catechism and take the memory test.
4. Read “A Place for You” by Daniel Erlander. Write two paragraphs sharing at least 3 things that you learned and how that connects with your life.
5. Serve as a Communion Assistant at least four times.
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Communion. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Confession

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create a work of art relating to Confession. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Individual & personal confession is a tradition in the church. Sit down with Pastor Josh and go through the rite of “Individual Confession and Forgiveness.” You’ll be asked to say aloud the sins for which you are guilty and you will hear a personal word of forgiveness.
3. Write a one-page paper on confession, and why you believe it is still important to the church.
4. Memorize the Confession section of the Small Catechism and take the memory test.
5. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Confession. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Prayer

Required: at least 3 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Learn how to pray & practice the Examen prayer. Write a short set of instructions that could be used to teach someone else how to pray this prayer.
2. Learn how to pray & practice the Prayer Labyrinth. Write a short set of instructions that could be used to teach someone else how to use this prayer form.
3. Learn how to pray & practice Centering Prayer. Write a short set of instructions that could be used to teach someone else how to pray this prayer.
4. Learn how to pray & practice using Prayer Beads. Write a short set of instructions that could be used to teach someone else how to use this prayer form.
5. Learn how to pray & practice using Consolation & Desolation. Write a short set of instructions that could be used to teach someone else how to use this prayer form.
6. Learn how to pray & practice Lectio Divina. Write a short set of instructions that could be used to teach someone else how to use this prayer form to read Scripture.
7. Learn how to pray & practice using Prayer Stations. Create your own Prayer Station.
8. Luther’s Small Catechism has prayers written for Morning Blessing, Evening Blessing, and Mealtimes. Memorize these prayers and be prepared to either write them or recite them. You do not need to have them all memorized at the same time.
9. Write your own set of morning, evening, and mealtime prayers.
10. Create your own project to demonstrate that you’ve tried and practiced various prayer forms. Before you begin, discuss your idea with Pastor Josh.

**Year 2**

**The Bible**

This year’s focus is the Bible. Over the course of the year, we will talk about the importance of both the Old and New Testament. We will learn both how to read the Bible and how to apply it practically to our lives. At the end of this year students should have general knowledge of the Bible, as well as the ability find passages in the Bible. Year 2 combined with Year 3 (History & Lutheranism) will help students understand how the Bible came to be and how it continues to remain important in our lives.

To complete this year students are expected to attend 90% of lessons offered, and complete at least 15 experiences in the following areas:

**Bible Overview
Pentateuch**

**Prophets**

**Writings**

**Psalms & Proverbs**

**Jesus and the Gospels**

**Acts**

**The Apostle Paul**

Bible Overview

Required: at least 2 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. **[Required of all students]** Create a Biblical timeline, including at least 40 events from Genesis to Revelation.
2. Watch the videos on the TaNaK/Old Testament and the New Testament on bibleproject.com Write a paragraph on what you learned from each video.
3. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the Bible. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Pentateuch

Required: at least 1 experience from this category

Here are the options:

1. Read one full book of the Pentateuch. Write 1-2 pages about the book, including 2-3 stories you found most important and 2-3 things you learned.
2. Create an art project representing a book or story from the Pentateuch. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
3. Watch a movie on Moses or Joseph. Write a short review of what you learned from the movie. Movies available at the church include the Prince of Egypt, Joseph: king of Dreams, Joseph and the amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Moses the Musical. If there is a different movie you would like to watch discuss it with Pastor Josh first.
4. Watch the videos on the five books of the Pentateuch on bibleproject.com. Write 2-3 sentence on what you learned about each book.
5. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the Pentateuch. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Prophets

Required: at least 1 experience from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing one of the prophets. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Read one of the prophetic books. Write 1 page on what you found most interesting about your prophet. (note: if you choose a prophet with 4 or less chapters you must read two short prophets.
3. Watch a movie based on one of the prophets. Write a short review of what you learned from the movie.
4. Chose five prophets and watch their videos on bibleproject.com. Write 2-3 sentences on what you found most interesting and learned about each prophet.

1. Research one of the prophets and write a 1-page summary of what you learned about that prophet.
2. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the prophets. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Writings

Required: at least 1 experience from this category

Here are the options:

1. Read one the writing books (excluding Ruth, psalms, and proverbs). Write a 1 page paper summarizing the book and what you learned from it.

1. Watch bibleproject.com videos for 4 of the writings books. Write 2-3 sentences on what you found most interesting about each book.
2. Watch a movie on one of the writing books. Movies about Esther and Ruth are currently available at the church. If you would like to watch a different movie (or have one added to the library) please talk to Pastor Josh.
3. Create an art project representing one of the writings. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
4. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the writings. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Psalms & Proverbs

Required: at least 1 experience from this category
Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing a chapter from Proverbs or one of the Psalms. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Watch the videos for Psalms and Proverbs on bibleproject.com. Write a paragraph about what you learned from each video.
3. Choose and read 3 Psalms. Write 3-5 sentences about what you found most interesting in each Psalm.
4. Choose one Psalm or chapter of Proverbs. Rewrite your chosen chapter in your own words and discuss it with Pastor Josh.
5. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the writings. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Jesus and the Gospels

Required: at least 2 experience from this category
Here are the options:

1. **[Required of all students]** Chose and read one of the 4 Gospels. 1-2 pages summarizing the Gospel and describe what near things you learned reading your chosen Gospel.
2. Watch the videos for the 4 Gospels on bibleproject.com. Write a short paragraph on what you learned about each Gospel. (note there are two videos for each Gospel for 8 videos total.
3. Watch a movie about Jesus. Discuss the movie with Pastor Josh or write one page review of the movie. Some movies available at the Church include, Jesus Christ Superstar, Godspell, The Greatest Story Ever Told, Jessu of Nazareth, Jesus. If you would like to watch a different movie discuss it with Pastor Josh first.
4. Select two of Jesus Parables and write your own interpretation of what those parables could mean. Discuss which parables you will be interpreting with Pastor Josh before you begin.
5. Create an art project representing a story from one of the gospels. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the gospels. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

The Book of Acts

Required: at least 1 experience from this category
Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing a theme from the book of Acts. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Watch the videos for the Book of Acts on bibleproject.com. Write 2-3 paragraphs on what you learned about Acts. (note there are two videos for the Book of Acts.)
3. Chose and research one of the apostles. Write 3-4 paragraphs explaining what you have learned about that apostle. If you have questions about which apostle to choose, talk to Pastor Josh for suggestions.
4. Read the Book of Acts. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you learned. What is your favorite story from Acts.
5. Read a book based on Acts. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you learned from the book. **Current offerings here**
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the Book of Acts. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

The Apostle Paul

Required: at least 2 experience from this category
Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Paul or one of his letters. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Read one of Paul’s Epistles. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you found most interesting in this epistle. If you need help deciding on an epistle to read please talk to Pastor Josh.
3. Watch a movie about Paul. Write 2-3 paragraphs on what you learned about Paul from the movie. **Current Offerings Here**
4. Watch Bible Project videos for 4 of Paul’s epistles. Write a paragraph about what you learned in each of the videos. If you are unsure which epistles are written by Paul please talk to Pastor Josh for suggestions.
5. Read a book about Paul and his ministry. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you learned from the book. **Current Offerings Here**
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the apostle Paul. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

**Year 3**

**History & Lutheranism**

This year’s focus is the history of the Church and Lutheranism. Over the course of the year, we will learn the ways that church history created the church that we know today.. We will learn some basics of church history and the reformation, the life of Martin Luther and other church reformers, and the basics of the ELCA and what makes us different from other Lutheran denominations in America. At the end of this year students should have general knowledge of church history and an increased ability to articulate their faith as it relates to the ELCE. Year 3 combined with Year 4 (Other Denominations & World Religions) will help students articulate their own faith, as well as understand the differences and similarities they share with people of other faith backgrounds.

To complete this year students are expected to attend 90% of lessons offered, and complete at least 15 experiences in the following areas:

**Early Church History
Reformation**

**Martin Luther**

**ELCA**

**Lutheran Worship**

**Other Lutherans in America**

Early Church History

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing church history. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. **[Required of all students]** Pick a saint of that looks interesting or that you’ve heard of. Do some research and write a 1 page report on that saint. Include things like a summary of their life, what they believed, why they were significant, and any connections to your own life
3. Watch a movie or tv series about church history. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you learned. **Current Offerings Here.**
4. Research religious iconography. Find out what is it and why is it important? What are some common symbols in iconography? Create your own religious icon and be ready to explain it. Or write a 1 page report on what you learned about iconography.
5. Pick a piece of religious art from the list and do some research on it. Who created it and why? Where is located now? What are some of the religious or faith themes or symbols within the piece and what do they mean? What does this piece say aboutwhat the artist believed and wanted to share? What are your reactions and feelings related to this piece? Write a 1 page report.
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of church history. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Reformation

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing the reformation. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Choose 5 of Luther’s 95 Thesis. Research them and write 2-3 sentences abot why each is important. (this can only be completed one time for either reformation or Martin Luther sections)
3. Chose and research a church reformer other than Martin Luther. Write 1 page about what you learned in your research. If you would like help choosing a reformer Pastor Josh can help you decide.
4. Watch a movie about the reformation. Write 1-2 paragraphs about what you learned from the movie. Current Offerings Here
5. Choose and watch two videos from the provided list to watch. Write 1-2 paragraphs about each video and what you learned. See Appendix # for list of options.
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the reformation. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Martin Luther

Required: at least 2 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Martin Luther. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Read a book about Martin Luther. 2-3 paragraphs about what you learned about Martin Luther from the book. **Current Offerings here.**
3. Watch a movie about Martin Luther. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you learned from the movie. **Current Offerings Here.**
4. Choose 5 of Luther’s 95 Thesis. Research them and write 2-3 sentences abot why each is important. (this can only be completed one time for either reformation or Martin Luther sections)
5. Choose and watch two videos from the provided list to watch. Write 1-2 paragraphs about each video and what you learned. See Appendix # for list of options.
6. Read one of Martin Luther’s Sermons, Letters, or Lectures. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you learned in your reading. A complete collection of Luther’s writings is available in Pastor Josh’s office. If you would like help deciding what to read talk to Pastor Josh for suggestions
7. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Martin Luther. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

ELCA

Required: at least 2 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing the ELCA. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Research 1 of the ELCA Social Statements <https://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements>. Write 1-2 paragraphs about the statement and what it says.
3. Watch ‘The Story of the ELCA’ on YouTube. Write 1-2 paragraphs on what you learned from the video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqWMICnbJkM>
4. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of the ELCA. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Lutheran Worship

Required: at least 2 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Lutheran Worship. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Help the Altar Guild prepare for worship 2 times. Talk with Pastor Josh to organize a time to complete this experience.
3. Schedule a time to meet with Betsy. Talk with Betsy about how she plans a worship service and chooses which music is used for a service. Write 1-2 paragraphs about what you found most interesting about your conversation.
4. Research the Liturgical Calendar. Write a couple of sentences describing each season of the church year.
5. Volunteer to be an usher or greeter at least three services. Write 1-2 paragraphs about why think ushers and greeters are important to worship.
6. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Lutheran Worship. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Other Lutherans in America

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing other Lutheran denominations. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Chose and research a Lutheran denomination other than the ELCA. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you found most interesting in your research.
3. Attend worship at an LCMS or WELS church. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what was similar and different about ELCA worship and what you learned from your experience.
4. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of other Lutheran denominations. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

**Year 4**

**Other Denominations & World Religions**

This year’s focus is expressions of faith outside of Lutheranism. Over the course of the year, we will learn the ways that the church varies across denominations, as well as the ways faith is expressed across the globe. We will learn some basics of other Christian denominations in America and abroad. We will also seek to learn the basics of other major world religions, especially the Abrahamic religions, Judaism and Islam. By learning about other faiths, students will gain a deeper appreciation for their own traditions, as well as a deeper respect for those who believe differently than them. At the end of this year students should have general knowledge of Christian denominations and world religions. Year 4 combined with Year 3 (History & Lutheranism) will help students articulate their own faith, as well as understand the differences and similarities they share with people of other faith backgrounds.

Throughout the four year cycle multiple trips to attend worship at or learn about different denominations and religions will be planned. While students will not be required to attend all trips to complete the year, they are expected to attend as many as possible. If a student misses too many of these trips they may be asked to make up some of them on their own.

To complete this year students are expected to attend 90% of lessons offered, and complete at least 15 experiences in the following areas:

**Catholicism**

**Reformed**

**Pentecostal & Charismatic**

**Baptist**

**Other Denominations
Judaism**

**Islam**

**Other World Religions**

Catholicism

Required: at least 2 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Catholicism. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Research the sacraments of the Catholic church. Write 1 page about what you learned. How and why are they different than the Lutheran sacraments? Are there any that you think should be Lutheran sacraments?
3. Attend worship, with the group or on your own, at a Catholic church. Write 2-3 paragraphs on how it was similar to and different from ELCA worship, and what you found most interesting about your experience.
4. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Catholicism. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Reformed

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Reformed churches. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Attend worship, with the group or on your own, at a Reformed church. Write 2-3 paragraphs on how it was similar to and different from ELCA worship, and what you found most interesting about your experience.
3. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Reformed churches. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Pentecostal & Charismatic

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Pentecostal and Charismatic churches. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Attend worship, with the group or on your own, at a Pentecostal or Evangelical church. Write 2-3 paragraphs on how it was similar to and different from ELCA worship, and what you found most interesting about your experience.
3.
4. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Pentecostal and Charismatic churches. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Baptist

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Baptist churches. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Attend worship, with the group or on your own, at a Baptist church. Write 2-3 paragraphs on how it was similar to and different from ELCA worship, and what you found most interesting about your experience.
3. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Baptist churches. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Other Denominations

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing other Christian denominations. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Attend worship, with the group or on your own, at a Christian denomination not otherwise covered in our lessons. Write 2-3 paragraphs on how it was similar to and different from ELCA worship, and what you found most interesting about your experience.
3. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of other Christian denominations. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Judaism

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Judaism. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Judaism. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Islam

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing Islam. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Research the 5 Pillars of Islam. Write a paragraph about each of the 5 Pillars. What are the Pillars? How do you fulfill the Pillars? What do you find most interesting about the Pillars?
3. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of Islam. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.

Other World Religions

Required: at least 1 experiences from this category

Here are the options:

1. Create an art project representing other world religions. Write two paragraphs on what inspired you to create this work of art.
2. Choose and research a world religion. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you learned about this religion and what you found most interesting about it.
3. Create your own project to demonstrate you have knowledge of other world religions. Before you begin, discuss your project with Pastor Josh.