Catechism Class

2023-2024 School Year

# Instructor Information

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| Instructor | Email | Phone |
| **Rev. Michael Nielsen** | Rev.mike.nielsen@gmail.com | 218-280-0999/715-537-5949 |

# General Information

## Description

Catechesis is defined as “oral religious instruction”. It is the basic instruction of the Christian faith to youth and adults of all ages. Catechesis begins at birth and does not end till death. Traditionally in most congregations there is intentional, in depth times for Catechesis. Catechism Class is one of those times, traditionally in the Jr. High years of 5th-8th grades. The 7th and 8th grade catechism students will study Apologetics during the 2023-2024 School Year. We will be discussing everything from creation vs. evolution to our identity, talking about who Jesus is and angels and demons, and so much more. We will be putting what we learned in portions of the Catechism into practice.

## Expectations and Goals

1. Grow closer to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
2. Gain a better understanding of our Lutheran teachings.
3. Take to memory portions of Scripture that will be of benefit in the future.
4. Become an active disciple of Jesus Christ.

# Course Materials

## Required Materials

* Notebook
* Binder with folder
* Pen or pencil/highlighter
* Faith Alive Bible
* Luther’s Small Catechism
* Catechism Workbook
* Lutheran Service Book

## Requirements

**Attend Sunday Worship and Catechism Classes each week!** This is not an option. Part of Catechesis is being in the Divine Service. Catechesis is done from the pulpit as well. You will be promising that you will be in worship faithfully when you finish this intentional Catechesis time. **Be in the Divine Service, receive God’s Grace.**

* Memorize assigned texts each week.
* Complete weekly work as assigned.
* Complete the learning log as assigned. – These will be reflective journaling from Class.
* Participate in service to the Church and His Kingdom.
* Complete 20 worship reports
* Acolyte at least 10 times during the school year

# Course Schedule

| Week | Topic | Reading | Memory Work |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9/6/23 | Orientation |  |  |
| 9/13/23 | What is Apologetics |  | 1 Peter 3:15 |
| 9/20/23 | What is a Worldview |  | 1 Corinthians 1:23-25 |
| 9//27/23 | What are the Law and Gospel? Do they matter? |  | Romans 1:16 |
| 10/4/23 | How do we speak the truth in love with our neighbor? |  | Ephesians 4:15 |
| 10/11/23 | What tools do we use when we defend our faith? |  | Isaiah 55:10-11 |
| 10/18/23 | Did Jesus Even Exist |   | 1 Timothy 2:5 |
| 10/25/23 | Who is Jesus? |  | 2nd Article of the Apostles Creed |
| 11/1/23 | Did Jesus Really Die and Rise Again? |  | Matthew 28:5-7 |
| 11/8/23 | When Will Jesus Return? Why Does His Return Matter |  | Acts 1:10-11 |
| 11/15/23 | How do we know there is a God? |  | John 3:16 |
| 11/22/23 | Thanksgiving Break | No Class | --------- |
| 11/29/23 | How do we know the Bible is True? |  | 2 Timothy 3:16-17 |
| 12/6/23 | How did the Bible Come to be? |  | Hebrews 1:1-2 |
| 12/13/23 | What do we Know about God?  |  | The Apostles Creed |
| 12/20/23 | Is the Creation Account True? |  | Genesis 1:1-2 |
| 12/27/23 | Merry | Christmas | No Break |
| 1/3/24 | What do we Know about evolution? |  | Exodus 20:9-11 |
| 1/10/24 | Why does the Account of Adam and Eve Matter? |  | Genesis 1:27 |
| 1/17/24 | Is there evidence of the flood? |  | 2 Peter 3:5-7 |
| 1/24/24 | Is the God of the Old Testament the same God of the New Testament? |  | John 1:1-2 |
| 1/31/24 | What is my identity? |  | Genesis 1:26-27 |
| 2/7/24 | Does Human Life Matter? When does it begin? When does it end? |  | Jeremiah 1:5 |
| 2/14/24 | As a Christian, Can I Like Science? |  |  |
| 2/21/24 | Why do bad things Happen? |  | Romans 8:23 |
| 2/28/24 | Are we alone? What about angels and demons? |  | Nehemiah 9:6 |
| 3/6/24 | Are we alone? What about Ghosts and aliens? |  | Hebrews 9:27-28 |
| 3/13/24 | Barron Spring Break  |  | No Class  |
| 3/20/24 | Is there a hell? Is there a heaven? |  | Romans 6:23 |
| 3/27/24 | Holy Week | ----------------------------- | No Class  |
| 4/3/24 | What about Miracles? |  | Hebrews 2:3-4 |
| 4/10/24 | What does God want me to do as a Christian? |  | Ephesians 2:8-10 |
| 4/17/24 | What Does God say about Marriage? |  | Matthew 19:4-6 |
| 4/24/24 | What does God say about Gender Identity? |  | Genesis 1:27 |
| 5/1/24 | Things to do when Defending the faith |  | 1 John 1:8-9 |
| 5/8/24 | Catch-up day |  |  |
| 5/15/24 | End of year confirmation party |  |  |

# Additional Information and Resources

## Weather Policy

We follow the Barron Schools schedule. When Barron Schools close for weather, we will not have Catechism Class.

## Family Friendly

## Additional Resources

[**Devotions on the Small Catechism**](https://www.cph.org/p-32538-devotions-on-the-small-catechism.aspx)

# Why Am I Joyfully Lutheran? Instruction, Meditation, and Prayers on Luther’s Small Catechism

**In the Image of God: Gender and Sexual Identity**

# Sexuality Mentality: Creating a Culture of Biblical Integrity

# Luther’s Small Catechism: A Manual for Discipleship

# Male and Female: Embracing Your Role in God’s Design

# 5 Things You Can Do To Appreciate Science and Love the Bible

# Starting at the End: Worldview, God’s Word, and Your Future

# Faith and Science in a Skeptical Age

# Did Jesus Commit Suicide?