



Tuesday, January 17th, 2012

Dear Confirmation Parents,

It's time for the Confirmation Students to "Take Over" the Wednesday night midweek Lent services again! Each week, we will be highlighting the work of the ELCA's World Hunger Appeal (www.elca.org/hunger) and talking about how God uses us to touch the lives of others.

Your student(s) are the core of this project. The 8th graders will be offering reflections in the service (mini-sermons), and the 6th & 7th graders will be the ushers & greeters, they will be preparing the bulletins, praying and even cooking for us. *(All the descriptions of the roles are available on the website, but please see the next page for some helpful information about each role).* I initiated this because I think it is so good for the students to feel valued and important, as well as have opportunities for leadership development.

All the documents you will need are available in .pdf format on our church website (www.stluke-slinger.org). Along with this letter, you should have also received the master list of students, which weeks they have been assigned to, and which roles they have chosen. Armed with this information, you can go to the church website, and under "Quick Links" find "Confirmation Hungry Lent Project." On the next page, you will have access to all the information you and your student need for this exciting project.

If the date that your student has been assigned to is a conflict for your family schedule, please contact Poppy or Pr. Matt as soon as possible so we can re-assign them to a time that will work for you and still provide them with the opportunity to participate.

I am excited for this project! I love watching the kids "come out of their shells" I will be available to help them from now until their night. I have told them that they can call me (cell:262-309-5454) or e-mail (pr_matt@hotmail.com) anytime they need.

If you, as the parent, have any questions, please feel free to use the same contact info above to get a hold of me. I appreciate the ways you support your student's faith development, and I pray that this experience will be a positive one for all involved. I'm excited to see what the students come up with!

Peace,

Pr. Matthew Short

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If your student chose the WORSHIP LEADER role, they will be responsible for several items: First, they will be reading a prayer (some may choose to write their own, or some may use other materials) at the beginning of the meal downstairs (5:30). They will also be reading the “story” (“StoryX.pdf, where “X” is the week # they have been assigned to) and leading the confession & forgiveness at the beginning of worship at 6:30. (All materials are available on the website).

If your student chose the WORSHIP PREPARER role, it is their job to come to the church early enough to copy the bulletin insert for the night. (The insert is “StoryX.pdf, where “X” is the week # they have been assigned to...but a master copy is also available at the church in a file folder near the copier). Some groups may do this photocopying in the weeks ahead of their assigned night. Preparing the bulletins needs to be done by 6:15 at the latest. As you can see on the sheet, they will also be checking lights, heat, ushering & greeting. We also need them to light the candles. Essentially, they are learning & helping with all the “behind the scenes” details to making a worship service happen!

If your student chose the COOK role, they are assigned with the task of preparing a meal based on the “CookX.pdf” document (where “X” is the week # they have been assigned to). As we highlight the very real problem of poverty in the world, these recipes are meant to be reflections of what the poor in each country highlighted actually eat. They should not be very complicated recipes, but if you find that it contains too many obscure ingredients, feel free to choose something else from the same ethnic tradition. The point here is to give the congregation a little “taste” of that culture. Small portions are fine – we will still be feeding folks soup and sandwiches for dinner – your student is only being asked to help prepare a very small side dish so that folks can get one spoonful of the interesting cultural dish of the evening. Feel free to cook this at home & freeze it (or whatever preparation you need to do) – you would just need to arrive at the church early enough to warm it up for folks on the assigned night. If there is more than one student, we simply ask that the students coordinate their efforts, or each make their own version of the dish and plan on combining them once at the church.

If your student is in eighth grade, then they are responsible for the REFLECTION. On the website, you will find two documents you need: “StoryX.pdf” & “ReflectionX.pdf” (where “X” is the week # they have been assigned to). These documents include the story of a hungry person who has been helped by the ELCA World Hunger Appeal, a Scripture verse to base their thoughts on, and some study helps from Pr. Matt. Your students’ task is to read the assigned scripture and prepare a very brief (2-3 paragraphs) mini-sermon on it. Please use the study helps I have provided and reassure them that they will have plenty of time with me to go over their thoughts on the Bible passage and I will be assisting them in their preparation! Please have them either e-mail or Facebook me a draft of their thoughts ONE WEEK prior to their assigned night.