

2021-2022 | Ministry for Grades 6 – 9

First English Lutheran Church, 511 Belle Street West, Cannon Falls MN 55009

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm | September 22—May 4 | Kris Kincaid—felcykris@gmail.com

www.firstenglishchurch.com—Check the youth page first for updates and information related to these ministries. Register online, sign-ups: mentors, special events, pizza volunteers, acolyte dates, and other updates are posted at www.firstenglishchurch.com, on the youth page.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROTOCOL

UPDATED 9/2/21 As the pandemic continues, for the sake of our church staff, lay leaders, small group guides, and Sunday School teachers, we will be requiring adults, youth, and children ages three and older to wear masks for indoor ministries, except when eating a meal. This decision is made in love for the health, safety, and wellbeing of all of us.

KEY DATES

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 29-MAY 4

6:30-8:00 PM

Please note the schedule changes for this year. We are starting with a meal, eaten with our small group. Pizza and a beverage will be provided for everyone. This format addresses the busy schedules which can prevent youth from eating meals before they arrive. It also allows more time with small and large groups, as well as gathering for worship. Wednesday night ministries begin at 6:30 pm and end at 8:00 pm, when worship concludes. The evening format is:

- **6:15-6:30 pm** Pizza and beverages are served.
- **6:30-6:45 pm** Opening discussion with pizza/beverages seated in small groups.
- **6:45-7:25 pm** Large group lesson, small group response with discussion, and activities.
- **7:30-8:00 pm** Worship - song leaders?

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS:

6th-9th graders will dive into topics about **Faith in Life** with a Lutheran lens. 6th graders will meet separately from 7-9th graders, in the Conference Room.

6TH GRADE, CONNECTIONS: Discussion will explore the foundation of our faith. Youth will connect and build relationships in small groups, take part in a mentor program, and learn about being an “everyday Samaritan”.

7-9TH, CONFIRMATION: Youth will discuss how our faith is present and impacts our daily life. What does the Lutheran church teach about being a Sinner and Saint? How are we to love our neighbor, be stewards, and live in an inter-faith world? What does it mean that Jesus died on the cross? How do we connect with God through prayer? What does it mean to live as Lutherans and how are we called to live our faith active in love? So many questions!

EXPECTATIONS

- **Wednesday Night Attendance:** We ask you make attendance on Wednesday nights a priority. When we gather, we meet God and God forms faith in us as we hear God’s word and live into God’s promises.
- **Worship:** Wednesday night includes a worship service based on the week’s Confirmation lesson. Sunday Worship is held on-site at 9:00 am and streams on the website, www.firstenglishchurch.com. Worship is central to our relationships and faith.
- **Worship Notes— 8**
Each student needs to complete worship or worship note forms during the school year. **Worship Note forms** are available in the Narthex.
- **Living our Faith—Worship Involvement –12**
As Christians, the common center which unites us is “Jesus Christ proclaimed in Word and sacraments amidst participating assemblies of singing, serving, and praying people.”

Why is worship central to our faith? What does worship say about God? During 6-9th grade, youth have opportunities to serve as acolytes, readers, ushers, etc. Each small group is assigned dates to help lead Wednesday worship. Youth are expected to be involved in worship 12 times each year and track their participation.

6-9th graders will serve as an acolyte at the 9:00 am Sunday. Each youth signs up a minimum of 1 Sunday per year. There are 52 Sundays, so some youth will need to acolyte more than once. This counts as a worship involvement.

- **SERVICE: - 4 FIRST ENGLISH RELATED EVENTS/YR**
Youth are expected to participate in a minimum of four service projects through First English each year. Examples include: **God’s Work. Our Hands**, October 3; **Trunk or Treat**, October 31; **Sunday School Shepherd**, ass-up ist with Sunday School classes, **Tech Support** during Sunday Worship services, **DITCH CLEAN-UP, EASTER BREAKFAST, ETC.**
- **Mentor —Sign-up by September 29:** The first Wednesday of each month is Mentor Night. On this night youth and mentors share time together over a meal and program or worship service. Youth in grades 7-9 invite an adult to be their mentor. (Please reach out to Kris Kincaid for suggestions on potential mentors.) Youth in grade 6 are paired with a high school youth.