

Catechism Class 2010-2011

Purpose:

The purpose of Catechism class is to grow in faith as we study God's Word together. We use Martin Luther's Catechism as an outline, since it is a very good summary of the essentials of God's Word. As the Holy Spirit works in our hearts through the word, he brings us to grow in spiritual knowledge and wisdom and to mature in our Christian faith. He enables us to better serve one another in love. He encourages us to confess our faith as we prepare for our Confirmation promises to follow Jesus and his word all our life. And he prepares us to receive the Lord's Supper and the blessings it brings.

Bring to Class:

- Pencil or pen
- Highlighter
- NIV Bible
- Blue Catechism
- Completed assignments
- Ready to say memory work and take the quiz

Weekly Assignments:

- Memory Work
- Catechism Question sheet
- Bible Reading sheet (6th grade sheet is from *Bible Stories in Pictures*)
- Pre-quiz sheet (The answers are on the church's web page, so that you can study the correct answers. Be ready to take the quiz (no books or notes) the following week.)
- Sermon listening questions - may be handed in right after church on Sunday or on the following Wednesday. (If you are not able to attend our church on Sunday, then read or listen to the sermon from the church's web page and answer the questions.)

Class Schedule:

The instruction time will be from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Quizzes, memory work, and any make-up work should be done either before or after the instruction time. I'll be at church by 3:30 p.m. for those who want to come early. I'll stay after 5:00 p.m. for as long as it takes for everyone to finish. If the student cannot stay to complete the work, another make-up time must be scheduled before the next class so that the make-up work does not snowball.

This schedule should work well, if students come with their assignments well done and ready to say their memory work and take their quiz. If they come figuring they'll do

it at church, it will be a very long Wednesday.

Grading:

Each student is expected to do as well as they can with the abilities God has given them. Each assignment is corrected and a percentage is given. But no final grade is handed out. Rather the goal is for each student to know the material. So if the work is not done well enough the first time, the student will need to make corrections before leaving class. To pass an assignment, the following requirements need to be met:

- Memory work recitation: Fewer than four helps and/or significant mistakes.
- Bible Study and Catechism worksheets: 75% or better
- Quiz: 85% or better (Since all the answers are provided ahead of time, a higher percentage is required for quizzes rather than worksheets.)
- Sermon notes need to have specific enough answers that shows that the student was trying to listen to the sermon and got something out of it.

If a student has a learning problem that makes these requirements unreasonable, please speak with me.

Missing class:

If a student will not be able to make it to class, please let me know in advance. If more than two students are going to be gone, we'll cancel class. We'll also want to schedule a make-up time, so that I can go over the class notes that were missed. Weekly assignments should be available at the church's web site, so no one should fall behind.

Cancellation:

If the Hancock School District cancels classes or dismisses early due to weather, there will be no Catechism class that day. If I need to cancel class for other reasons, I'll ask the Hancock school to announce it, and I'll try to leave a message at each of your homes.

Food:

A snack may be brought for before or after class, but there is no eating or drinking during the instruction time. Due to messes that were left in the kitchen last year, the kitchen is off limits at this time. If students show that they are responsible for cleaning up after themselves in the class area, we may revisit the use of the kitchen.

Internet:

If you do not have Internet access, the following is also available on the church's computer.

To find the Catechism assignments:

- Go to the church's website: <http://hancocklutheran.org>
- On the home page, click on the "Catechism" button in the upper left area.

- The most recent week will be at the top of the list.
- Choose the assignment you want to print.

To do a Sermon Listening sheet:

- Go to the church's website: <http://hancocklutheran.org>
- On the home page, click on the "Sermons" button in the upper left area.
- The most recent sermon will be the top one under the year "2010" (or "2011" after January 1). Click on it.
- In the upper left corner, click "Print Questions" if you need the questions.
- You may either read the sermon or listen to it to answer the questions.

Creative Projects:

Throughout the year there may be a few creative projects assigned. These would be related to the topics we are covering and allow the students to express these truths and their faith through artistic means such as writing, drawing, painting, crafts, poetry, music, ect. More details will be given if and when these are assigned.

Suggested Weekly Schedule:

To avoid headaches Tuesday night as you cram to get everything done for Catechism, here is a schedule that could prove helpful:

- **Thursday:** Learn memory work.
- **Friday:** Do Catechism worksheet.
- **Saturday:** Do Bible Study worksheet.
- **Sunday:** Do Pre-Quiz worksheet.
- **Monday:** Correct Pre-Quiz on line and study it.
- **Tuesday:** Review memory work and Pre-Quiz.
- **Wednesday:** Come to class happy and prepared.