



Dear parents of Holy Comforter 5th and 6th grade students,

We are excited to welcome you to our 2023-2024 Sunday School curriculum for your students, Faith in Action! This program will provide opportunities for your children to connect their Christian faith to their lives, empower them to serve others, and learn together in active and engaging ways.

As part of this program, the students will participate in parish ministry by helping our FACETS team set up and prepare for their monthly food deliveries to our homeless neighbors. We will also explore topics including prayer and spirituality, wellness, finding our unique gifts and talents, caring for God's creation and more. We will welcome guest teachers and mentors from our parish community to help us learn, and we will build in plenty of time for questions, community-building, and fun. In the spring, we'll create our own micro-businesses and hold a Market Day to raise funds for our ministry partner Five Talents, to support its work in ending extreme poverty through economic empowerment. Throughout the year, we will review core stories and traditions of our shared faith and how they relate to our lives and relationships with God and others.

The goals for our students are to

- Build a supportive community of peers;
- Nurture their relationships with our wider parish family, who will support them (and you!) through their pre-teen and teen years and beyond;
- Make connections between what they have learned in church and Sunday School to their own lives and faith journeys; and
- Empower them to use their faith, creatively, and unique talents to make a difference in the world - and live into their baptismal covenant to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves.

Our first class will be this Sunday, September 24, from 10:35 am (or right after the 9:30 am church service ends) to 11:30 am. Our class will meet in the Lillian Croy room, which is on the first floor of the church building.

And we want to make sure that on your calendar you hold Saturday evening March 9, when our class will do a takeover of the second Saturday evening Eucharist. We'll be writing the prayers, doing the readings, helping with acolyte and usher duties, and more. Much more to come, but we hope you'll save the date!

We look forward to sharing ministry with your students this year. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out!

In Christ's love,

Children's Ministries and Faith in Action team

Susan McGuire, Dennis Hanzlik, and Patrick Richardson