



# St Paul's

## Spiritual Growth Catalog

2009-2010

# about this booklet

Jesus taught his friends to rely on God's promises.

God speaks his promises to you in the Bible. His words bring a new kind of life to your heart. This new life is called faith. Faith transforms your identity both internally and externally. It secures blessings for your distant future and your daily routine.

Your faith needs to be cared for. If left alone, it inevitably fades away. The way to care for faith is to continually take God's promises to heart.

This booklet lists courses, groups, and learning opportunities which St. Paul's Lutheran offers to assist you in your spiritual growth.

Use this information to chose a time, place and topic that works for you.

# find your place

**Connector Groups .....4**

**Core Curriculum .....5**

1st Connection	5
2nd Connection	5
3rd Connection	5
4th Connection	5

**Sunday Morning .....6**

Authentic Christianity: The Epistle of James	6
Meet Jesus	6
End Times: The Lutheran Difference	6
Gospel Gems in Isaiah	6
God's Hand in the Life of Joseph	6
Philippians	6

**Youth .....7**

Sunday School (3k - 8th Grade)	7
God in the Real World	7

**During the Week .....7**

Moms 'n' Tots	7
Sunrise Study	7
Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study	7
Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study	7
Saturday Morning Men's Breakfast	7



# Connector Groups

---

*"Discover friendships... live your faith...find your place."*

Connector Groups help make St. Paul's a church where Christian friendships are easy to find. We know each other, pray for each other, can talk about more than just the weather, and watch each other's backs.

Gather together regularly with a small handful of friends from church. React to and reflect on the week's sermon. Take what you learned from pastor's sermon, and fit it into your own personal situations and experiences. Build faith-friendships and get to know each other in the process.

Here's the details:

**1 hour** - Find an hour each week to gather with a handful (6-10) of friends from church, or your neighborhood. Each person brings their completed **GroupWork**. Watch as God grows and strengthens spiritual friendships.

**Find a group** - Get started by checking the "I'm interested in a Connector Group" box on the weekly Connection Card you receive in worship. Or, stop by one of the entry events held at church near the beginning of each new 10-week session.

**Easy-in and easy-out** - Don't quite click with your group? No problem. The first 3 weeks of each Connector Group are "try-on" weeks. In these weeks everybody can shuffle or shift around until you find a group that fits just right.

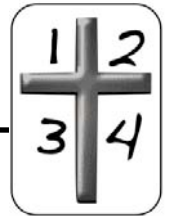
**Start with a smile** - Want to get a group together? The most important traits for a host are a friendly smile and personality. After that, just let the **GroupWork** lead the way.

**10 gatherings** - Gather with your friends for 10 weeks, then pause for a break. Do this three times a year, with summers off. Or, find your own timeframe that fits just right.

**Bible expert provided** - Your pastor is your group's Bible teacher. Each week he uses the sermon to prepare everyone in your group. By the time you gather, the teaching's already been done. All that's left is for you to put those truths into the context of your own life experiences.

Grab a brochure from the information center at church for more information.

# Core Curriculum



*"The courses for every member to take at least once. Start small, aim big."*

## 1st Connection

*"Connect to Christ"*

Learn the basics about Jesus and his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. This one-session class is especially helpful for those who want to become Christians, who are interested in Christian baptism, or are looking for a simple introduction to St. Paul's.

## 2nd Connection

*"Connect to Christ's church"*

This fifteen-week course will introduce you to the foundational teachings of the Bible and the Lutheran Church. Participate in this class, and never again will you consider yourself a Bible illiterate! At the completion of this course, a person may become a communicant member of our congregation and receive the Lord's Supper.

## 3rd Connection

*"Connect to a Christian lifestyle"*

This fifteen-week course is designed to prepare people for the Christian life and teach them the basic skills needed for Christian living. It will cover such subjects as: unity and diversity of the Church, pure living in an impure world, private and public worship, marriage and male/female roles, parenting and Christian education, how to study the Bible, prayer, evangelism, stewardship, and the like.

## 4th Connection

*"Connect to Christ's Mission"*

The capstone class in the Core Curriculum series, the 4th Connection is a high commitment / high reward class offered once every two years. Participants will study the writings of the entire Bible. Described as a "life-changing class," the 4th Connection is taught in six quarters over two years, with summers off. A significant time commitment is required, and attendees will complete regular reading and homework assignments. The course is led by Bible expert, Dr. Ron Heins. A registration fee of \$90 is due at the first class period. Grab a brochure from the Information Center for more details about how to register.



# Sunday Morning

---

*“Make your morning a two-hour event: worship and a spiritual growth course.”*

## **Authentic Christianity: The Epistle of James**

James, a brother of Jesus, wrote this letter to urge Christians to express their faith in daily living. He reminds us of what Jesus said, especially in the Sermon on the Mount. As we study this book, we will ask ourselves whether others can see by what we do and say that we believe in Jesus.

## **Meet Jesus**

Jesus is the person at the heart of everything Christian. This study will focus on Jesus as a person: his unique characteristics of mercy, justice, patience, intelligence and selflessness. Class content will coordinate with the content of the weekly children’s Sunday School lesson so that parents and children can focus on common truths every Sunday morning. This class is also taught in the school building near the Sunday School classrooms, to allow for “one-stop-shopping” for the entire family.

## **End Times: The Lutheran Difference**

Millennium. Revelation. Rapture. Eternity. So many opinions. What do you believe? What does the Bible say? What do Lutherans and other denominations teach?

## **Gospel Gems in Isaiah**

No prophet of God painted a clearer word-picture of our Savior and His work than Isaiah. Christ’s virgin birth and His bitter passion are the highlights of this Old Testament Gospel. We who live in the light of New Testament revelation will develop a greater knowledge of Christ and a stronger faith in Him through our study of Isaiah.

## **God’s Hand in the Life of Joseph**

In our study of the life of the Old Testament patriarch Joseph, we will see God at work, shaping Joseph’s circumstances so that he can ultimately redeem and reconcile his family. And we’ll see the hand of God in their lives, lovingly guiding them through their disappointment and struggles to a place of peace.

## **Philippians**

The Apostle Paul wrote this letter – while in prison – to the church he started in Philippi. He reveals how the gifts of Christian joy and contentment can be enjoyed by Christians, no matter what the circumstance.

## **Sunday School (3k - 8th Grade)**

Jesus loved to meet children, and children today still love to meet him. This year's Sunday School program will bring Jesus into the world of our children, through Bible stories, crafts, singing and lots of personal attention. Children will experience Jesus' love as they meet him in the stories found in the New Testament.

## **God in the Real World**

Our "God's Warriors" High School group gathers each Sunday in the Student Ministry Center in the basement of the old church building, beginning at 9:30 AM. A casual atmosphere, friendly leaders and pizza make this an easy time for teens to grow their faith and friendships. Video introductions to each lesson spark discussion, as teens have an opportunity to live and apply the Apostles' Creed today.

---

## **During the Week**



### **Moms 'n' Tots**

A morning playgroup and a time of spiritual growth for moms, Moms 'n' Tots meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. This fall's Bible discussion topic is Family Finances.

### **Sunrise Study**

A Thursday morning Bible study group for early birds, this group meets at 6:30 a.m. to preview and discuss the scripture lessons that will be used in the upcoming week's worship services.

### **Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study**

Women gather for a study of Angels and Demons, later followed by a devotional study of some of the most comforting and wisdom-filled psalms.

### **Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study**

A spiritual growth opportunity for women, this group is currently enjoying a course called, "Heirs Together" which highlights and defines the unique identity and calling God has for his daughters.

### **Saturday Morning Men's Breakfast**

Men meet to enjoy breakfast and application of the writings of James the Apostle every other Saturday morning in the Grace Room

# Bible Classes

ID	Course	Details	Room
----	--------	---------	------

## Core Curriculum

C1	1st Connection	11:00 am and 12:15 pm on the following Sundays: Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 6, Jan 31, Feb 28, May 23	Church Library
C2	2nd Connection	Sundays at 9:30 am or Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. 15-week sessions begin September 13 and January 3.	Faith
C3	3rd Connection	Sundays, 9:30 am. 15 week session begins January 3.	School #9
C4	4th Connection	Mondays, 7:00-9:30 pm. Course begins September 14.	Grace

## Sunday Mornings

S1	James	Sundays, 9:30 and 11:00 am, beginning September 13.	Grace & Faith
S2	Meet Jesus	Sundays, 9:30 and 11:00 am, beginning September 13.	School #9
S3	End Times	Sundays, 9:30 and 11:00 am, beginning November 15.	Grace & Faith
S4	Isaiah	Sundays, 9:30 and 11:00 am, beginning January 3.	Grace & Faith
S5	Joseph	Sundays, 9:30 and 11:00 am, beginning April 11.	Grace & Faith
S6	Philippians	Sundays, 9:30 and 11:00 am, beginning August 8.	Grace & Faith

## Youth

Y1	Sunday School	Sundays, 9:30 am, beginning September 13.	School
Y2	God in the Real World	Sundays, 9:30 am, beginning September 13.	Teen Center

## During the Week

W1	Moms 'n' Tots	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 9:15, beginning September 10.	Church Library
W2	Sunrise Study	Thursdays, 6:30 am.	Grace Room
W3	Tuesday Women's Study	Tuesday,s 9:30 am, beginning September 15.	Faith Room
W4	Thursday Women's Study	Thursdays, 6:15 pm, beginning September 17.	Church Library
W5	Saturday Men's Study	Every other Saturday, 8:00 am, beginning September 26	Grace Room