

CrossTraining

2020-2021

What is CrossTraining?

CrossTraining is a three-year confirmation education program designed for students in Grades 6-8. During this three year cycle students will participate in a number of learning experiences that engage them in Christian living and doctrine. Upon completion of CrossTraining, students will be invited to participate in a special “Rite of Confirmation” in which they will have an opportunity to make a public profession of their faith. CrossTraining moves beyond “head knowledge” only. Just as the word “training” suggests, we hope to prepare students to become dynamic “Christ Followers” by moving their head knowledge into action and becoming life-long learners of Jesus.

Who may enroll in CrossTraining?

CrossTraining is designed for students entering Grades 6-8 who are interested in learning more about God’s unconditional love and His plan and purpose for their lives.

CrossTraining Core Courses

CrossTraining classes take place Wednesday evenings from 7:15-8:30pm. During the evening students will be engaged in both large and small group learning activities. The large group portion will be facilitated by a member of the CrossTraining teaching team and will utilize a variety of engaging and effective teaching methods. The Small Groups consist of 5-7 students and are facilitated by caring Mentors. Small groups also are intended to assist students in processing the lesson as well as foster Christian friendships. The classes will focus on the fundamental topics of the Christian Faith and Life. During this **three year cycle** students will complete the following...

- **6th Grade:** Introduction to the Bible, Old Testament and New Testament Overview
- **7th and 8th Grades:** The Ten Commandments, The Creed, Lord’s Prayer, Means of Grace and Christian Life

Faith Formation Modules

CrossTraining students are asked to participate in two active learning modules that are intended to help students engage in Christian Worship and discover the joys of serving others. The learning modules are outlined in the Faith Formation Booklet. The booklet includes logs to journal and process the various experiences. The faith formation packet will be due by the last class of CrossTraining in May.

Early Communion Instruction

CrossTraining students are eligible to participate in an Early Communion instruction series that will allow them to participate in Communion prior to being confirmed and as early as 6th grade. The seven session Communion Instruction course is available online this year with the exception of the final session 7 class that will be in person and includes a final test and “How To” topic. Registration with information will be sent out later this year. If students elect to forgo taking the Early Communion Instruction Course they will be eligible to participate after they are confirmed in 9th grade.

CrossTraining At Home Online

Because of Covid-19 we are adding an “At Home Online” CrossTraining option. Families that select this option are to indicate the on the CrossTraining Registration form or by contacting Peter Hiller. Online students are asked to keep pace with the specific schedule of their grade and will be asked to do additional home discussions with a parent. Lessons will be presented via video online at the church website and will include additional supplemental material. If you choose this option, CrossTraining staff will contact you with additional information and directions. If you desire to switch back to in-person sessions contact Pete Hiller.

Covid Preparedness Plan

All CrossTraining families are to review the Family of Christ Covid-19 Preparedness Plan online at the church website. Changes to the preparedness plan are likely as we go through the year and you will be notified when changes take place.

Rite of Confirmation

Upon successful completion CrossTraining, Ninth grade students will be invited to participate in a special Rite of Confirmation typically held the end of October. Prior to the Rite of Confirmation students will complete a comprehensive written exam and develop a final class project.

Attendance Policy

Participation is **required** at all scheduled CrossTraining classes. Students are to be seated in the classroom by **7:15 p.m.** so that we can begin promptly. Class will end at **8:30 p.m.** If student is unable to be present in class, parents are to send or e-mail a written excuse to the student's teacher. **Students that miss a specific class will be asked to complete a make-up assignment at home using the "Online At Home" instruction resources. Once the make-up work is done students must show their work to their instructor for credit.**

Worship Attendance

Students are expected to participate in Worship each week either online or in person. Worship is scheduled Sundays at 8am, 9am and 10:15am and available online at the church website and can be viewed at your convenience

Acolyting

CrossTraining students are eligible to serve in worship at Family of Christ as Acolytes. Acolytes assist by lighting and extinguishing altar candles and helping out during communion. This is one way students can earn volunteer service hours for their Faith Formation Module. If you are interested in serving in this special role please contact Peter Hiller. All new acolytes are to attend a training session on October 1, from 6:30-8:00pm. At least one parent should attend with the student.

Parent Partnership

Because parents play a powerful role in the faith formation of students we welcome and encourage a strong partnership with parents. In order for students to gain the most out of CrossTraining, parents are strongly encouraged to partner with the teaching staff. Please play an active role by modeling faith in the home, worshiping regularly together and overseeing and discussing your student's work and assignments. Also, please consider the following opportunities.

Parent Opportunities

- **CrossTraining Mentor:** As a CrossTraining Small Group Mentor you will have the unique opportunity to assist a small group of 5-7 students during CrossTraining Class. Mentors facilitate small group activities and discussions on Wednesday evenings. This position requires little if no weekly preparation as the classroom instructors will take the bulk of teaching. Your role is simply to mentor and positively encourage students. If you love Jesus and love middle school students this might be the perfect spot for you. If you are interested contact Peter Hiller and plan to attend the CrossTraining Mentor Training on September 23 at 7:15pm.
- **6th Grade Parent/Student Nights:** Sixth grade parents will be invited to participate in special Parent nights during the CrossTraining Year. The goal of the parent/student night is to introduce parents to the CrossTraining classroom and connect with other parents. Watch for more information to come.

Other Youth and Family Opportunities

- **The Point Youth Sunday Bible Class**

CrossTraining students are invited to participate in this Sunday morning Bible class either at 9am or 10:15am in the Youth Center. Students in attendance are encouraged to attend worship that morning as well or on Wednesday evening. (Attendance can count towards credit for the Faith Formation Module)

Friends

Friends are welcome and encouraged at all classes and events. Visitors, however, come under the same expectations and rules as the rest of the class. Make sure they understand all rules before coming to class.

Special Education Needs

If your student has any special education needs, please consult with your student's teacher or indicate special needs on the registration form.

Student Expectations

In order to create a positive Christ-centered environment, it is vital to have cooperation from the entire CrossTraining family. Our expectation is that CrossTraining is a place that all students feel welcome and safe. Unfortunately, the negative behaviors of a few can jeopardize the entire experience for others. Exclusive cliques or relationships, bullying, negative attitudes, disrespect, inappropriate or destructive behavior, and rebellious spirit destroy community. If students are unable to manage their behavior in a positive way parents will be contacted to work out a solution.

As a CrossTraining family we will commit to the following...

Come prepared to learn

- Bring required materials and a positive attitude each week.
- Be where you are supposed to be at all times.
- Keep up with all classroom assignments and requirements.
- Share in discussions.

Respect Others

- Speak well of others. No cut downs or jokes at someone else's expense.
- Welcome and include others.
- Respect Adult Leaders. God commands it with a promise.

Respect Property

- Clean up after yourself. Take responsibility for any damage done.
- Take care of church facilities better than you would your own.
- Take care of personal textbooks and materials.

Share in Discussion

- Raise your hand and take turns.
- Talking with your friends is great—just not during class time.

Bring the Following Each Week in your CrossTraining Backpack

- Bible
- Catechism
- Bible Book of Charts
- Pen or Pencil
- A great attitude

What Not to Bring

- Negative Attitude
- Clothing or material that is suggestive, vulgar, or disrespectful
- Drugs, alcohol, tobacco products or anything illegal for minors

Note: Students may have **cell phones** on their person, but are not allowed to have them out or in use during class or small group.

Lost and Found

Lost and misplaced items will be put in the lost and found located near the Church Office.

Please put your name on ALL your CrossTraining materials.

Snow Days/Cancellation

Class cancellations due to poor weather will be determined after 4:00pm on scheduled CrossTraining dates. Cancellation notices will be posted on WCCO and sent out via email/text.

Communications

In order to keep you up-to-date and well-informed, several communication pieces for parents and students will be available on a regular basis.

- **E-Updates:** Updates and reminders will be periodically sent to your provided e-mail address. This will be our primary format for communication, so please be diligent in checking your inbox.
- **Printed Communication:** We will occasionally send home with students printed newsletters or event flyers during CrossTraining. At the same time we typically email those out to families and link them to the website as well.
- **Family of Christ Website:** Parents and students may access a wide variety of information online at www.foclutheran.org. Schedules, forms and updated news will be available under the Children/Youth Tab.
- **Teacher Communications:** CrossTraining Teachers will maintain student records. Teachers will contact parents via email or phone if students fall behind or neglect to turn in required assignments.

CrossTraining Team:

6th Grade Instructors

- **Alex Stohlmann** E-mail: astohlmann@foclutheran.org Phone: 651-248-9756
- **Dorothy Trocke** E-mail: dorothy.trocke@gmail.com Phone: 612-454-7765

7th Grade Instructors

- **DCE Peter Hiller** E-mail: philler@foclutheran.org Phone: (O) 763-434-7337 (Ext. 15) (C) 763-381-2001

8th Grade Instructors

- **Pastor Keith Grimm** E-mail: kgrimm@foclutheran.org Phone: 763-434-7337 (Ext. 19)

Administration

- **DCE Peter Hiller** — CrossTraining Director
 - E-mail: philler@foclutheran.org
 - Phone: (O) 763-434-7337 (Ext. 15) (Mobile) 763-381-2001
- **Patti Nelson** — CrossTraining Administrative Assistant (Registration, Records, Financial Accounts)
 - E-mail: pnelson@foclutheran.org
 - Phone: 763-434-7337 (Ext. 12)

