

# CROSS TRAILS MINISTRY SUMMER CAMP 2017



## • A Bible Study Supplement for Parents and Campers •

This summer at all Cross Trails Ministry programs, campers will be learning about the seasons of the church year in the Lutheran Church. Through Bible study, worship, and devotional activities, campers will understand the flow of the church calendar and the stories that take place during those times. Please use this supplement to connect with your camper and hear what they have learned while at camp.

### **Advent**

Prayer: Prepare us God to be your servants. We wait with anticipation for the coming of Christ daily. Amen

Text: Isaiah 9:1-7

Ask

- What are things you have prepared for?
- Who does God come for?
- What is God preparing us for?
- How do you respond in action to God in the Advent season?

Activity:

- Light four candles and discuss the words: Hope, Joy, Peace, Love

### **Christmas**

Prayer: Jesus, you are the greatest gift of all. We thank you for showing us how to live humbly in the world just as you did. Amen.

Text: Luke 2:1-20

Ask

- What celebrations have you been a part of and why were they so fun?
- What does Christmas mean to you?
- What is so surprising about the setting in which Jesus was born?
- How does it make you feel that God loved us so much he wanted to become one of us?
- How do you respond in action to God in the Christmas season?

Activity:

- Look through baby pictures and talk about when, where and the circumstances of your camper's birth.
- Clean out your house and donate unneeded items to a local charity. Give these gifts to someone else!

### **Epiphany**

Prayer: Creator God, we follow you just as the disciples did. Show us the path and lead us. Help us to understand our

calling. Amen

Text: Luke 2:41-52

Ask

- When in your life have you ever felt lost? What helped you through it?
- What have you learned about Jesus from this text?
- How has Jesus revealed who he is to you?
- During the Epiphany season, Jesus calls his disciples to follow him. How are you showing that you are following Christ?
- How do you respond in action to God in the Epiphany season?

Activity:

- Go out with you family and look at stars. Wonder in the majesty of creation.
- Sign up to be a volunteer somewhere. Just as Jesus asked His disciples, drop what you are doing and follow me.

## **Lent**

Prayer: Lord, when we stray, bring us back and welcome us with open arms. Forgive us when we do wrong. Amen

Text: Matthew 26:36-46

Ask:

- What does fasting mean to you?
- How difficult is it for you to avoid temptation?
- What does feasting mean to you?
- Fill in the blanks: If I fast from \_\_\_\_\_, then I will be \_\_\_\_\_. And If I feast on \_\_\_\_\_, then I will be \_\_\_\_\_.
- How do you respond in action to God in the Lenten season?

Activity:

- Participate in a small fast from meals and snacks. Break that fast later in the day with a family meal together.
- Make a meal for someone in the community or invite them into your home and listen to their stories.

## **Easter**

Prayer: Alleluia! Christ has risen! We praise you for redeeming us. Help us to spread the good news of Christ. Amen

Text: John 16:17-33

Ask:

- When have you been forgiven for something you have done?
- Why is forgiving someone difficult?
- What does forgiveness look like?
- How does Jesus make us feel like we are a part of the community even when we feel like we shouldn't be?
- How do you respond in action to God in the Easter season?

Activity:

- Plant something in a pot or in a garden. See new life grow
- Research and upcycle something for your community. Make new life out of something old.

## **Pentecost**

Prayer: Holy Spirit, bring peace to all people. Let us be united and strive for justice, equality, patience, and understanding with all of our neighbors.

Text: Acts 2:38-47

Ask:

- Who is in your community of believers?
- What is a way that you can tell others what you have learned about Jesus?
- God comes through the Holy Spirit. How have you seen the Holy Spirit at work in your life or within your community?
- How do you respond in action to God in the Pentecost season?

Activity:

- Try some words in a new language.
- Practice some evangelism. Start with your family and tell them what you would say to a stranger. Then go out into the world and do the same with people you don't know.