



*Responding to God's Grace in Christ,
we welcome all people, prepare
disciples, and live faithfully through
worship, spiritual growth, and action.*

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, WINTERSET, IOWA

FAITH FORMATION TEAM CHARTER

AUTHORIZATION

The Faith Formation Team, in accordance with the Combined Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of St. Paul Lutheran Church, is established as an organization as described in Chapter 14.01. As stated, this team shall exist to aid in "ministering to the members of this congregation and to all persons who can be reached with the Gospel of Christ."

PURPOSE

The mission of the Faith Formation Team is to nurture and encourage spiritual growth within all ages by providing leadership and oversight of a comprehensive Christian education program.

COMPOSITION

The Faith Formation Team will be composed of the Pastor, the Children's Ministry Director, the Youth Ministry Coordinator, the team leader, leaders of each of the children's, youth, and adult ministries cadres, and up to three more persons representing any of the cadres. The congregation members will each serve for a term of two years. The terms will be staggered for the sake of continuity, and terms are renewable. Representatives of children's ministry, youth ministry, and adult faith formation will be identified.

One Congregation Council member will be assigned as liaison to the team, will attend meetings when possible, and shall report to the Council on a quarterly basis or as needed.

MEETINGS

The Faith Formation Team shall meet formally on a quarterly basis to plan and develop, monitor and evaluate the Christian education and faith formation programming of St. Paul. Informal and electronic meetings may also take place as needed.

Cadres of each group (children's, youth, and adult ministries) will meet with the appropriate staff member to prepare for each of the Faith Formation Team meetings. The cadre leader in collaboration with the staff member shall be responsible for calling the meetings and setting the agendas. Cadre meetings may be held electronically.

Adopted 11.16.17
Revised 12.12.17

Officers Responsibilities

The Team shall name a chairperson who will be responsible for collaborating with the Pastor, calling the meetings, developing the agendas, coordinating the faith formation cadres (children, youth, and adult ministries), and communicating with the Council liaison.

The Team shall name a secretary who shall maintain complete and accurate minutes of all meetings and supply a copy thereof to each team member, the Council liaison, and the church office (C.14.01.03).

RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Faith Formation Team include, and are not limited to

- Develop and monitor comprehensive educational programs and opportunities that addresses the faith formation needs of every age group
 - Set and monitor educational policies, including the Youth Protection Policy
 - Ensure alignment of “cradle to grave” programming, including Sunday School, God Squad, Vacation Bible School, Confirmation, Youth Ministry, and Adult classes or activities
 - Coordinate children’s music and theatre programming, including and not limited to Children’s Choir, Children’s Bell Choir, and Children’s Christmas music program
 - Approve curriculum decisions and purchases
 - Create new programming in response to the changing needs of the congregation
- Support program staff (Children’s Ministry Director, Youth Ministry Coordinator, and Pastor) in their fulfillment of the church’s mission and faith formation mission
 - Brainstorm new ideas for continual improvement
 - Provide suggestions and feedback on all programs, events, and activities, including music and theatre opportunities for children and youth
 - Assist with communication and promotions of programs and events
 - Organize educational supplies and materials
- Follow the recommended calendar to complete responsibilities. Revise the calendar as deemed appropriate by the Faith Formation Team
- Serve as a sounding board for staff and educators
- Fund raise when needed
- Provide for manual labor as needed

CHARTER REVIEW

This Charter shall be reviewed annually by the Congregation Council Governance subcommittee by October 1, and the Team chair will provide feedback and suggested revisions to the Congregation Council for Council consideration. Authority for all charters resides with the Congregational Council.