

## **Christian Educators at Trinity United Methodist Church will:**

- ∴ Teach the Bible as the inspired Word of God
- ∴ Pray for students and with students each time classes meet
- ∴ Guide learners to develop a deep faith and life-long relationship with God
- ∴ Lead learners to seek and trust the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to identify themselves as children of God and to choose to be followers of Jesus Christ
- ∴ Lead learners to an understanding of Christian stewardship through prayers, presence, gifts and service
- ∴ Lead learners to respond in faith through Christian outreach to those in need
- ∴ Use curriculum that reflects the theological and biblical tradition of the United Methodist Church

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION GOALS FOR CHILDREN/YOUTH**

### **PRESCHOOL**

- ∴ Recite a meal grace (emphasis on Thanksgiving)
- ∴ Define “obey”
- ∴ Name one book of the Bible
- ∴ Practice financial stewardship through, weekly giving
- ∴ Participate in one mission project per year
- ∴ Be taught the following concepts:
  - Prayer is talking to Jesus/God
  - God made everything
  - God made each person to be special
  - God loves each person

### **EARLY ELEMENTARY**

- ∴ Review prior learning
- ∴ Pray together (Thanksgiving and Supplication)
- ∴ Memorize a bedtime prayer
- ∴ Define “honor” and, “praise”

- ∴ Recite the “Golden Rule”
- ∴ Recite the "Doxology"
- ∴ Name 2-3 books of the Bible
- ∴ Know the Bible is the foundation of Christian faith
- ∴ Practice financial stewardship through weekly giving
- ∴ Participate in one mission project per year

### **MIDDLE ELEMENTARY**

- ∴ Review prior learning
- ∴ Pray together (Thanksgiving, Supplication, and Acknowledgement)
- ∴ Memorize "The Lord's Prayer"
- ∴ Memorize and recite John 3:16
- ∴ Memorize and recite the "Great Commission", Matthew 28:19-2
- ∴ Be familiar with the “Great Commandment”, Matthew 22:37-3
- ∴ Name the Four Gospels
- ∴ Distinguish between the Old and New Testament
- ∴ Define "disciple", "commandment" and "parable"
- ∴ Name three or more of Jesus' disciples
- ∴ Practice financial stewardship through weekly giving
- ∴ Participate in one mission project per year

### **OLDER ELEMENTARY**

- ∴ Review prior learning
- ∴ Pray together (Thanksgiving, Supplication, Acknowledgment and Confession)
- ∴ Identify and locate in the Bible the “10 Commandments”
- ∴ Study Psalm 23 and Psalm 100
- ∴ Name the 12 disciples
- ∴ Describe the acts of “baptism” and "communion"

- ∴ Develop a working use of the books of the Bible
- ∴ Identify and locate "Sermon on the Mount"
- ∴ Name the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)
- ∴ Practice financial stewardship through weekly giving
- ∴ Participate in one mission project per year

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- ∴ Review prior learning
- ∴ Pray together (Thanksgiving, Supplication, Acknowledgment and Confession)
- ∴ Recite the "Gloria Patri" ("Glory to the Father")
- ∴ Define "baptism" and "communion" as "sacraments"
- ∴ Define "sin" and "grace"
- ∴ Identify and locate "The Beatitudes" (Matthew 5:3-11)
- ∴ Study Psalm 95 and 121
- ∴ Memorize the books of the Bible
- ∴ List the "Armor of God" (Ephesians 6:11-17)
- ∴ Use a concordance
- ∴ Memorize a psalm of one's choice
- ∴ Memorize and recite the Apostle's Creed
- ∴ Identify and define the Seasons of the church, including Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost
- ∴ Define "atonement" and "salvation"
- ∴ Discuss the concept of the Trinity
- ∴ Study 1 Corinthians 13
- ∴ Practice financial stewardship through weekly giving
- ∴ Participate in at least one mission project per year

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

- ∴ Pray together
- ∴ Apply biblical principles to everyday life
- ∴ Participate in in-depth studies of scripture passages, including comparison of various Bible translations of scripture texts
- ∴ Practice financial stewardship through weekly giving
- ∴ Participate in one mission project per year

## **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Confirmation class will be offered to seventh and eighth graders annually or on every other year. Youth will discuss, review, or be introduced to the theological concepts of: Sin, Grace, Trinity, Messiah, Atonement, Salvation, Holy Spirit, Personal Piety, and Social Holiness. Youth will also review the history and Structure of the Church universal, the mainstream United Methodist Church and Trinity United Methodist Church. Youth will become familiar with the privileges and responsibilities of church membership including: the vows of membership to support the Church through prayers; presence; gifts; and service.

## **TOOLS FOR MINISTRY**

### **PRAYER**

Prayer will be a part of each Christian Education class. Younger children will be led in prayer by their teachers. By third and fourth grade, children should participate in forming communal prayers. Children will be encouraged to practice prayer on a daily basis.

- ∴ Thanksgiving = Listing things before God for which we are thankful
- ∴ Supplication = Asking for God's assistance for others, ourselves or for events
- ∴ Acknowledgment = Naming and giving praise for the character and work of God the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit
- ∴ Confession = Naming our sins

### **THE BIBLE**

Trinity United Methodist Church uses the following Bible translations: New Revised Standard (NRSV), New International Version (NIV), The Good News Bible, the children's NIV or NLRV, the Contemporary English Version (CEV), or the Children's Common English Bible (CEB).

## **GOLDEN RULE**

"Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke 6:31, Matthew 7:12)

## **DOXOLOGY**

May be sung during worship after the offering.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

(Based on Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11: 2-4)

## **JOHN 3:16**

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish, but may have eternal life." (NRSV)

## **GREAT COMMISSION, MATTHEW 28:19-20**

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the earth." (NRSV)

## **GREAT COMMANDMENT, MATTHEW 22:37-39**

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it; "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

## **THE FOUR GOSPELS**

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are found at the beginning of New Testament.

## **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

Exodus 2:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:6-21

- I. Have no other Gods before God
- II. Do not worship idols
- III. Do not use the Lord's name in the wrong way
- IV. Remember the Sabbath and keep it Holy
- V. Honor your mother and father
- VI. Do not murder
- VII. Do not commit adultery
- VIII. Do not
- IX. Do not lie
- X. Do not covet

### **THE 12 DISCIPLES**

Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon, Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot (Luke 6:13-16)

### **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control (Galatians 5:22-23 NRSV)

### **GLORIA PATRI (GLORY TO THE FATHER)**

"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

### **UNDERSTANDING THE CHURCH YEAR**

∴ Advent = Four Sundays before Christmas Day

∴ Christmas = Birth of Jesus and 12 days following

- ∴ Epiphany = January 6 = Visit of Magi to Bethlehem, Baptism of the Lord
- ∴ Sunday = Remembrance of Jesus' baptism
- ∴ Transfiguration Sunday = Mountaintop transfiguration of Jesus (Mark 9:2-8)
- ∴ Lent = 40 days before Easter
- ∴ Ash Wednesday = 1st day of Lent, day of repentance and reconciliation
- ∴ Palm/Passion Sunday = Sunday before Holy Week and Easter
- ∴ Holy Thursday = Thursday before Easter, commemorating Jesus' crucifixion
- ∴ Easter = Celebration of Jesus' resurrection
- ∴ Pentecost = "Birth" of the church, 50 days after Easter
- ∴ Ordinary Time = Time between Pentecost and Advent
  - Trinity Sunday = Celebration of the Holy Trinity
  - All Saints Sunday = 1st Sunday in November
  - Christ the King Sunday = Sunday before Advent