

# AN INTRODUCTION TO *stepping stones*

Our mission is to partner with parents to fulfill their children's baptismal promises. To do this, our Youth Ministry uses Stepping Stones to mark important milestones throughout a child's faith journey into adulthood. With each stone, we equip families with opportunities to learn together, encourage them in worship with blessings and empower them with tools to continue growing in faith at home.

## 1. BAPTISM

Before the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, parents must attend a brief class.

**To schedule a baptism and class, contact [jsatterfield@christelca.org](mailto:jsatterfield@christelca.org).**

A heritage chest is given at baptism to help families collect and remember each stepping stone.

## 2. CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

There is a worship celebration in January to celebrate everyone who was baptized the previous year.

## 3. WORSHIPPING TOGETHER

**age: 3 years**

Parents attend one event in August focusing on the seasons and symbols of worship and how to worship as a family. The child is presented with their first bible and bible buddy during worship.

## 4. GOD'S STORY

**age: 2nd grade**

Parents and children attend an event that focuses on the bible and how to share God's Story at home.

The Kid's Study Bible is given during worship along with some of the staff's favorite bible stories and how they apply to their own lives.

## 5. FIRST COMMUNION

**age: 2nd grade**

Three events during Lent explore the stories significant to the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

- **Meaning of the Meal**
- **Story Day**
- **Living' Forgiven**

First communion is celebrated on Maundy Thursday after the traditional Seder Meal.

## 6. CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS

**ages: 3rd - 5th grades**

Events are held throughout the year for parent and child to come to a deeper understanding of the bible and their faith while growing in worship, service and fellowship.

THIRD GRADE

- **Old Testament**
- **New Testament**

FOURTH GRADE

- **Family Service**
- **Ten Commandments**

FIFTH GRADE

- **Prayer and Worship**
- **Apostles' Creed**

## 8. QUILLow SENDING

In June, high school graduates are blessed by their parents at Quillow Sunday and sent out with a visible reminder that they are loved.

*Quillow: a quilt that folds into a pillow*

## 7. CONFIRMATION

**ages: 6th - 8th grades**

Parent and child attend events with a focus on how the Small Catechism applies to everyday life.

- **Ten Commandments**
- **Lord's Prayer**
- **Drugs and Alcohol**
- **Media and Technology**
- **Sexuality**
- **World Religions**

Confirmation service takes place in August.