



2021-22 ELEMENT: Confirmation Ministry

Wednesdays 6-7:30pm at First Lutheran Church



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*Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do,
because you are his dear children.*

LIVE A LIFE FILLED WITH



FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST.

Ephesians 5:1-2

*We are here to learn the elements of a Christian life
Believe, Know and Experience God – Connect With Others – Serve Others in Love – Live Out Faith Daily*

Updated: 8-2021 HB



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Element has been created specifically for the 6th-8th graders in our churches! Element is a joining of Confirmation and Fusion Youth: the best of both worlds. Learning the elements of your faith in a fun and engaging space! This has been a collaboration between the pastors of Faith Lutheran, First Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, Federated and St. Johns/Kongsvinger of Donnelly, Heather Black (Fusion Youth Ministry Director) and with the blessing of the various church councils!

Our goal is to teach the 6th-8th graders to learn and experience the elements of a Christian life. To believe, know and experience God, connect with others, serve others in love and live out our faith daily! In 2021-22 we will be answering some of the questions that youth may have about their Faith. “Who wrote the Bible?” “What does it mean to follow Jesus?” “What is the Creed?” “Why should I pray if my prayers don’t get answered?” and so much more! We will be living out how to serve our world in love, to connect in relationship with God and each other and have some fun in the process!

Here are the details!

WED NIGHT SCHEDULE: 6pm-7:30 on Wednesday evenings @First Lutheran (may be at an alternate location as well)

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY MODEL:

We will meet in as a large group, but will mostly spend time in smaller groups. Christianity is a relational faith. We have a relationship with God and with each other. These small groups help to foster that relationship with God and each other. This will be based on grade and gender this year.

Small Group leaders are:

6 th Grade Boys: Pastor Matt & Tony Feuchtenberger	6 th Grade Girls: Katie Hassle & Haley Ourada
7 th Grade Boys: David Black & Mike Odello	7 th Grade Girls: Amy Swanson & Elissa Breuer
8 th Grade Boys: Pastor Chris & Pastor Dan	8 th Grade Girls: Heather Black & Naomi Fynboh

COMMUNICATION: Remind app

Heather will send information about meeting times, events, parent info letters, and family devotionals and all around general info so please keep an eye out for those through the Remind app. Please see the attached pages and sign up!

Heather Black’s information:

✉ heatherblack.fusion@gmail.com

☎ 320-349-0103 (feel free to text or call)

Social Media : Facebook@fusion56267 or Instagram@fusion56267

Website: www.fusion-ministry.com

Pastors will send you information about your specific church information and requirements.

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RETREATS, TRIPS, SERVICE PROJECTS and ACTIVITIES:

Please fill out the attached permission slip that will grant permission for your youth to go on the retreats, trips, service projects and activities that Element will be providing as we go along this year. Makes it easier for us all and keeps paperwork to a minimum! 😊

MINISTRY TO THE WORLD/TITHE: SUPPORTING A WORLD VISION KID

World Vision is an international partnership of Christians whose mission is to follow our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in working with the poor and oppressed to promote human transformation, seek justice, and bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom of God. We would be supporting a child by writing letters, sending pics and small gifts, as well as financially supporting this child and their family. This is a great way to give of our money and resources to people in need in other countries around the world!

MINISTRY TO MORRIS:

Each small group will be picking a ministry or non-profit in Morris to minister to this year. Through a service project, through prayer and through learning more about it. Some examples are: Nursing homes, food shelf, Options for Women, Somewhere Safe, etc..

Who we are:

Staff:

Heather Black: Fusion Youth Ministry Director
Pastor Chris Richards: Trinity Lutheran Church of Cyrus
Danielle Lesmeister: Faith Lutheran Church Of Morris
Pastor Dan Belgum: First Lutheran Church of Morris
Pastor Matt Orendorff: Federated Church
Pastor Rochelle Anderson: St. John's/Kongsvinger of Donnelly

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September: Getting started!

- Wed 8th Element Adult Ministry Team training @6pm
- Wed 15th Parent's mtg @6pm
- Wed 22nd Element: Get to know your small group/kickoff @6pm
- Wed 29th Element: Who wrote the Bible, God or humans?

October: Jesus

- Saturday 2nd @9-11am Pick Apples Service Project 6th Grade
- Wed 6th Element @6pm: If Jesus was God, why did he have to die?
- Sunday 10th @2-4pm Rake and Run service project 7th & 8th Graders
- Wed 13th: Is belief in Jesus the only way to get to heaven?
- Wed 20th No Element (Fall Break)
- Wed 27th Element @6pm: Why did Jesus get baptized? (talk more about baptism & baptize anyone who isn't or wants to make another declaration of faith)

November: Discipleship

- Wed 3rd Element @6pm: Why should I follow Jesus; can't I just say I believe in Him?
- Wed 10th Element @6pm: Why should I pray when God doesn't answer all of my prayers? (Prayer walk & wall)
- Friday 12th – 13th Element Retreat (Times TBA)
- Wed 17th Element @6pm: Retreat Recap & debrief with time for worship
- Wed 24th No Element (Thanksgiving Break)

December: Celebration

- Wed 1st – Element @6pm: Prep and plan for the Christmas Service Project
- Wed 8th – Christmas Service Project: Drive through
- Wed 15th – Element Christmas Party
- Saturday 18th: Act in the Live Nativity (sign up)
- Wed 22nd – No Element
- Wed 29th – No Element

January: Church/Other Beliefs

- Wed 5th Element @6pm: Why are there so many different Christian churches?
- Saturday 8th Adult Leadership Recharge Conference (held in Morris or the Cities?)
- Wed 12th Element @6pm: If there is only one God, why are there so many different religions?
- Wed 19th Element @6pm: Underground church Creative and Game!!
- Wed 26th Element @6pm: Question the pastors – Pastor panel answering questions the youth may have.

February: Creed

- Wed 2nd Element: Can it be proven that God exists?
- Friday, 4th- Sunday 6th – Winter Retreat (Times TBA)

Please sign up on the Remind App to receive reminders about upcoming events and meetings. (see attached)

Also, check out our website for up to date information and subscribe to our google calendar. www.fusion-ministry.com

All dates are subject to change and I will do my best to keep you updated if any changes occur.

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Wed 9th Element: How can God be 3 in 1?

Wed 16th Element: Why did Jesus go to Hell?

Wed 23rd Element: Why do we say, “We believe in the Holy Catholic church” if we are not catholic?

March:

Wed 2nd Ash Wednesday Services

Wed 9th Lent Services

Wed 16th Lent Services

Wed 23rd Lent Services

Wed 30th Lent Services

April:

Wed 6th Lent Services

Wed 13th Early dismissal: The Easter Experience (open to all families and church members)

Wed 20th Element @6pm: Tough Questions

8th Grade Groups: Is it a sin to think about sex?

7th Grade Groups: How do I stop doing things I know I shouldn't do?

6th Grade Groups: Can I do something bad enough to make God stop loving me?

Wed 27th Element @6pm: Why do we serve? (Prep and plan your service project)

May:

Wed 4th Project Serve Morris (various locations)

Wed 11th End of the school year Bash!

Mission Trip to Louisville, KY – June 11th-19th

Mission Trip Meeting Dates:

September 26th Informational Meeting (Both parents and students must attend)

November 7th Support letters & Team Building

February – Various Lenten Meals for Fundraising

April 3rd (Team Building)

May 15th (Both parents and students must attend)

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Parent/Volunteer Sign-Up

Name: _____

Pray and Encourage your son/daughter and their leaders/pastors.

Bring snack and/or drinks during the school year. (sign up will be a google doc)

Be willing to be a chaperone or driver for a retreat or a trip

Fall Retreat (November 5th-6th)

Winter Retreat (February 4th-6th)

Fusion Ski Day (March 5th)

Mission Trip to Louisville, KY (June 11th-16th)

Help drive students for an activity or trip.

Be a helper/driver during a service project.

Rake and Run/Apple Picking (October 10th)

Christmas Service Project (December 8th)

Project Serve Morris (May 4th)

Other (provide food or help with the snacks for the above service projects)

Serve as a substitute small group leader if a leader cannot make it or is sick.

Help Heather with the website. (Updating website, creating google docs and adding to the website, strengthen social media presence, etc...)

Other things you would be willing to share.

(Examples: bonfire at your house, host a superbowl party, beach day at your cabin in the summer, hayride, you get the idea!)

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Registration/Medical Information & Release/Photo Release Form

Church currently attending _____

Student Name: _____ Gender: M F

School Attending: _____ Grade: _____

Birthday: _____ Age: _____

Student Cell Number: _____

Student Email: _____

Student T-Shirt size: XS S M L XL 2XL (adult sizes)

Is it ok to use student cell and email for communication purposes? Y/N

Activities in School:

Special Hobbies or interests:

Parent/Caregiver(s): _____

Address: _____

Additional address (if applicable): _____

Parent/Caregiver phone numbers: Home: _____

Cell #1: _____ (Name) _____

Cell #2: _____ (Name) _____

Family Email (the one regularly checked): _____

2nd Email (optional): _____

Names and ages/grades of siblings:

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Student Medical Information:

(REQUIRED, Please list someone other than parent / guardian(s))

Emergency Contact (other than parent) _____

Relation to the student _____

CELL PHONE (S) _____ HOME _____ WORK _____

Insurance Company _____

Phone # _____ Policy # _____ Group # _____

Are there any medical conditions or allergies that we should know about? _____

Initial below and sign.

____ I authorize Fusion Youth Ministry (Element Jr High Ministry) and their staff to use photographs, video images, or other likenesses of myself and/or my child for the purposes of our website, and social media sites and/or other ministry material.

____ I also grant permission, in case of emergency, for medical attention to be sought by leaders of my student's group and/or the persons in charge, if I am unable to be contacted. I understand that I will be notified immediately of any such happenings.

____ I expressly assume any and all risks of injury arising from or relating to the activities I have given my child permission to participate with Fusion Youth Ministry (Element Jr. High Ministry) and waive and release any and all suits or demands of any kind or nature whatsoever against Fusion Youth Ministry, staff, volunteers, or representatives arising from or relating in any way to the participant's voluntary participation in said activities.

____ I understand that my youth will behave in a manner that is appropriate. If my youth's behavior is deemed inappropriate, violent or breaks the covenant that was signed by my youth, that I will be asked to come and take my youth home – or they will be sent home at my expense.

____ I have read, understood, and agreed to the information I have signed to on this form.

Parent/Caregiver signature: _____ Date: _____

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Retreats & Trips Permission

Please email me or text Heather if you have any questions at heatherblack.fusion@gmail.com or 320-349-0103!

____ Yes! I will be attending the Element Fall Retreat (Nov 12th-13th)

____ Enclosed/attached is my \$50 registration for Fall Retreat.

Cash _____ Or Check # _____ (written out to Trinity Lutheran Church)

____ Yes! I will be attending the Element Winter Retreat (Date TBA)

____ Enclosed/attached is my \$50 registration for Winter Retreat.

Cash _____ Or Check # _____ (written out to Trinity Lutheran Church)

____ Yes! I will be going on the Mission Trip to Louisville, KY (June 11th-19th)

____ Enclosed/attached is my \$150 registration for the Mission Trip.

Cash _____ or Check # _____ (Written out to Trinity Lutheran Church)

Parent/Legal Gaurdian's Signature:

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Fusion Youth Ministry Standards of Behavior

Fusion provides a Christian community within a safe environment that promotes spiritual and social growth for students. We encourage youth to participate in activities to the best of their ability and to treat one another and the staff with respect. The following guidelines are presented for participants. **Parents are encouraged to review these guidelines with their child.**

All Fusion Participants are to...

1. Use language that is appropriate within a Christian community.
2. Refrain from bullying.
3. Respect adult leaders, pastors and participants.
4. Respect the property of the churches where we gather and anywhere we visit.
5. Refrain from engaging or threatening to engage in acts of physical, sexual, or verbal abuse.
6. Refrain from the usage of or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or any illegal substance and/or paraphernalia.
7. Refrain from possession or usage of weapons.

Consequences of Misbehavior

The Fusion staff and board of directors will attempt to be fair in assessing consequences for student behavior. When appropriate, consequences shall be given in a progressive order in relation to the severity and/or frequency of the infraction(s). The specific disciplinary action and severity of punishment for inappropriate student behavior will be handled by the executive board and staff. The Fusion board has the right to dismiss student immediately based on the severity of the offense.

When offense occurs, it will be documented by staff and/or group leader. This will be communicated with student and parent/guardian. After two offenses, a meeting will take place with staff, board representative, pastor, and parent/guardian to find a mentor that will attend Fusion with the student to ensure behavior expectations are met. If this arrangement is not agreed upon or behavior expectations are still not met after mentor is in place, Element will provide programming resources to parent/guardian to provide one-on-one lessons at home to fulfill confirmation requirements.

Admission Agreement

In signing this section, I acknowledge that I have read through the above Behavior Agreement with my child. I am aware that my child is expected to abide by all regulations governing personal conduct and use of church property. If my child does not cooperate, or becomes a hindrance to the program, I understand the series of consequences.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

In signing this section, I acknowledge that I have read through the above Behavior Agreement. I am aware that I am expected to abide by all regulations governing personal conduct and use of church property. If I do not cooperate, or become a hindrance to the program, I understand the series of consequences.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please complete this agreement signed by both parent/guardian and student.
Thank you.**

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Dear Parents, Guardians, & Grandparents of Element Youth!

I am excited to start up a new year of Element. I have been prepping and praying for this new season.

Just a little info for those who may not be familiar with Element: Element was created specifically for the 6th-8th graders in our churches! Element is a joining of Confirmation and Fusion Youth. Learning the elements of your faith in a fun and engaging space! This has been a collaboration between the pastors of Faith Lutheran, First Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, Federated and St. Johns/Kongsvinger of Donnelly, Heather Black (Fusion Youth Ministry Director).

Our goal is to teach the 6th-8th graders to learn and experience the elements of a Christian life. To believe, know and experience God, connect with others, serve others in love and live out our faith daily! In 2021-22 we will be answering some of the questions that youth may have about their Faith. “Who wrote the Bible?” “What does it mean to follow Jesus?” “What is the Creed?” “Why should I pray if my prayers don’t get answered the way I want them to be answered?” “What is baptism & why did Jesus get baptized?” and so much more! Youth will get into their bibles and learn how to read it, so please have them bring it every week!

This year, with much prayer and consideration, we have made the choice to meet at First Lutheran Church on Wednesdays 6-7:30pm!!

Important dates to remember!

- September 15th @6pm: Parents and youth meeting at First Lutheran Church! (At least one parent and the youth involved must attend!) You will get the complete schedule for the year and lots of more information at this meeting!
- September 22nd @6-7:30pm: Element kickoff at First Lutheran Church
- September 29th @6-7:30pm: Element at First Lutheran Church

Enclosed are a few forms to fill out to make the meeting in September go much smoother. Please bring them to the meeting.

- Parent/Volunteer Sign-up
- Registration/Medical Information & Release/Photo Release Form
- Retreat & Trip Permission Form
- T-shirt order form!!

Thanks so much for your time!! As always, if you have any questions or concerns, don’t hesitate to email or give me a call: heatherblack.fusion@gmail.com or 320.349.0103. Have a great rest of your summer and I look forward to seeing you all in September!

- Heather Black
(Fusion Youth Ministry Director)

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If you are in 7th -12th sign up today!!

Cost: \$450 per person

(\$150 Registration due at signup)

We will be doing various fundraisers to help raise the funds to go on this trip!

We will be going with the organization called YouthWorks! In Louisville, we will be doing a variety of service opportunities, including working with local organizations that serve children in the community, spending time with the elderly, getting hands-on with work projects, and serving the homeless.

Students may serve all or part of the week at a food pantry, clothing distribution center, park beautification project, soup kitchen, children's program or minor home repairs. In the evenings, explore this beautiful city by playing at Waterfront Park, attending a local church service, visiting Churchill Downs, the home of the Kentucky Derby, and spending time with newfound friends.

YouthWorks has partnered with this community since 2008.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Heather Black!

We look forward to serving on this amazing adventure!!

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