



Youth Journey Map

Birth to Age 12

SET APART TO SERVE
LCMS CHURCH WORK RECRUITMENT

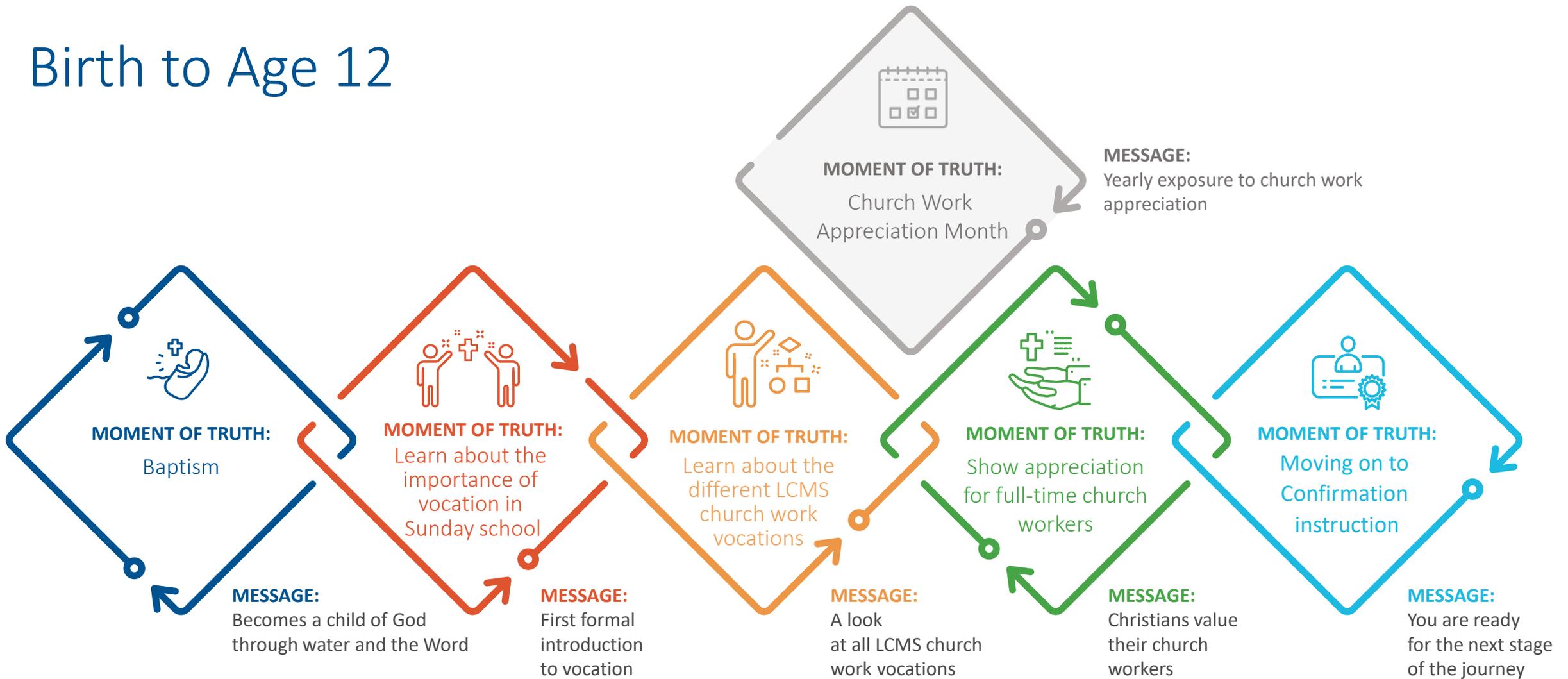


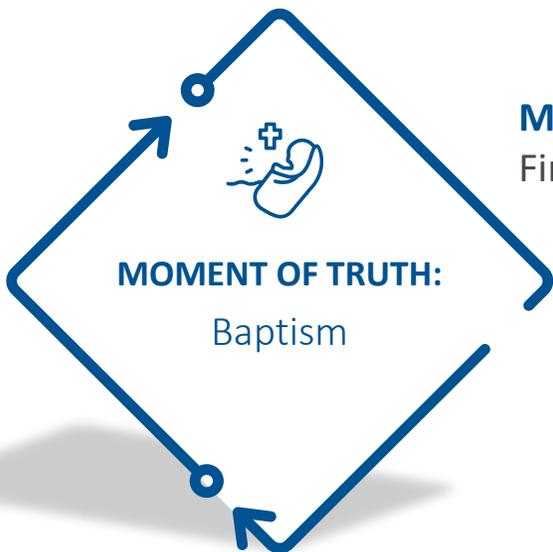
Journey Map Overview

- What is a journey map?
 - It is a guide to help demonstrate an individual's possible path in life.
- A journey map is not ...
 - A comprehensive list of every part of one's journey.
- Where did this journey map come from?
 - This journey map was developed based on research that focused on the experience of a wide range of LCMS individuals.
- How should I use this?
 - Use this guide to help you reflect on the key milestones of the young people in your life.



Birth to Age 12





MESSAGE:
First step in the Lutheran faith

Key Questions

What roles do church workers play in this stage?
(See Early childhood parental guide in Resources column.)

As a parent, how do I talk to my child about their Baptism as they get older and go through the Small Catechism?
As a parent, teach God's Word and the Small Catechism at home in family devotions and daily conversations. (See Conversation Guide for Parents in Resources column.)

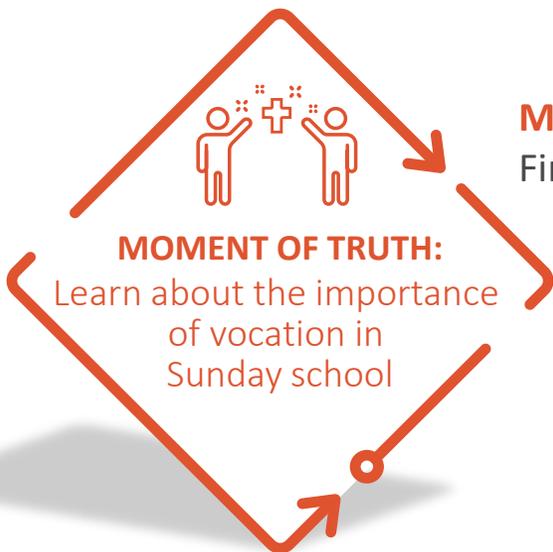
Aligning Activities/Experiences

Parents: Have conversations with friends and other members of the congregation who might have older children.

Have conversations with your child's godparents about the process and partnership.

Youth Action	Parent Action	Church Worker/Influential Adult Action	Resources
Baptized	<p>Parents have their child baptized, then bring them regularly to the Divine Service.</p> <p>Parents learn about the important role church workers play in the church as God works through them to bring His Word to His people.</p> <p>Teach children to follow along and participate in the liturgy, hymns, and prayers.</p>	<p>Pastor baptizes and walks alongside the parents to raise the child in the faith through the Word and pastoral care.</p> <p>Congregation witnesses, prays and provides support and encouragement to the youth and parents.</p> <p>Teach children to follow along and participate in the liturgy, hymns, and prayers.</p>	<p>Early childhood parental guide (Concordia Publishing House SAS curriculum)* Use: Provides useful information for parents to raise their young children in the Christian faith.</p> <p>Conversation Guide for Parents Use: Provides parents ways to start thinking about church work vocation, teaching the baptismal life to their children, and ways to engage with their children as they get older, prior to Confirmation instruction.</p> <p>LCMS.org Baptism Resources: https://resources.lcms.org/tag/baptism/ https://witness.lcms.org/2007/godparenting-for-dummies-a-practical-guide-1-2007/</p>

*Resources available in 2024



MESSAGE:
First formal introduction to vocation

Youth Action	Parent Action	Church Worker/ Influential Adult Action	Resources
<p>Attend Divine Service and Sunday school on a weekly basis.</p> <p>Participate in weekday opportunities when they are available.</p> <p>Display a high-level understanding of what a church worker is.</p>	<p>Parents reinforce lessons taught in Sunday school and instruct their children in the Christian faith.</p>	<p>Teachers provide background and guidance on what church work is.</p>	<p>Student books (Concordia Publishing House SAS curriculum): Early childhood, Grades 1–6*</p> <p>Use: Aids in conversations specifically about church work, but can be used as a supplement to the Sunday school curriculum already in place.</p> <p>FAQs About <i>Set Apart to Serve</i></p> <p>Use: Clarifies what church work vocations are available and explains education paths.</p>

Key Questions

What vocations are available? (see FAQs About *Set Apart to Serve* in the Resources column)

What can I do to start preparing my child for thinking about church work vocation? (CPH student book curriculum*)

Aligning Activities/Experiences

Early interactions with pastors and congregation members (influential adults) talking about characteristics youth exhibit that might lean toward a church work vocation.

Influential adults can provide examples of individuals in church work to start to put a face to a role.

Weekly attendance of the Divine Service is essential. Possibly singing in the children’s choir, bells or help parents usher.

*Resources available in 2024



MESSAGE:

A look at all LCMS church work vocations

MOMENT OF TRUTH:

Learn about different LCMS church work vocations



Youth Action

Continue to work on a high-level understanding of what the eight ordained and commissioned church workers are in the LCMS.

Parent Action

Parents reinforce lessons taught in Sunday school and Lutheran day school.

Parents reinforce CPH student lessons.

**Church Worker/
Influential Adult
Action**

Day school and Sunday school teachers provide guidance on church work, giving examples of church workers and explaining ways to support church workers.

Resources

**Student books (CPH SAS curriculum):
Grades 1–6***

Use: Aid in conversations specifically about church work, but can be used as a supplement to the Lutheran school curriculum already in place.

FAQs About *Set Apart to Serve*

Use: Clarifies what church work vocations are available and education paths.

Key Questions

What is my child learning in school? How might this prepare them to think about church work? (CPH SAS curriculum student books*)

What are the different church work vocations my child could consider? (lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve)

Aligning Activities/Experiences

Vacation Bible School (VBS) attendance provides an additional touchpoint for students to hear the Word.

Participating in school activities gives the opportunity to enjoy Christian fellowship.

*Resources available in 2024



MESSAGE:
Christians value their church workers

Key Questions

What are ways to show we appreciate church workers?
(Ways to Show Gratitude on lcms.org/sas-resources)

Aligning Activities/Experiences

More frequent interactions with pastors, church workers and congregation members (influential adults) about church work. These conversations will be specific to church work appreciation and the importance of supporting those individuals in their congregation.

Youth Action	Parent Action	Church Worker/ Influential Adult Action	Resources
<p>Able to speak simple truths of the Christian faith as taught in Divine Service, the home, Sunday school, and Lutheran day school.</p> <p>Participate in Divine Service.</p> <p>Participate in activities schools and congregations set up to show appreciation for full-time church workers.</p>	<p>Parents help youth show ways to appreciate church workers and participate with youth to reinforce that action.</p> <p>Parents write a thank you card, prepare a meal, deliver a beverage, or some other way to show appreciation to church workers.</p>	<p>Acknowledge, thank and celebrate church workers during Church Work Appreciation Month.</p> <p>Acts of appreciation to church workers throughout the year are most welcomed.</p>	<p>Student books (CPH SAS curriculum): Grades 1–6*</p> <p>Use: Identifies specific church workers in the child’s life and what roles they play.</p> <p>Ways to Show Gratitude (See church worker appreciation on lcms.org/sas-resources)</p> <p>Use: Provides ideas (writing notes, sharing videos, etc.) for ways children can show appreciation for the church workers in their lives.</p>

*Resources available in 2024



MOMENT OF TRUTH:

Moving on to Confirmation instruction

MESSAGE:

You (your child) are ready for the next stage of the journey

Key Questions

What do I need to think about as I prepare my child for Catechism? (CPH SAS curriculum student books*)

What questions can I ask to start a conversation with my child about church work? (See Conversation Guide for Ages 12–14 in Resources column)

Aligning Activities/Experiences

Going to LCMS summer camps give youth opportunities to talk to camp staff about serving the church and pursuing church work.

Youth Action	Parent Action	Church Worker/ Influential Adult Action	Resources
<p>Begin to learn the Small Catechism by heart from early childhood in preparation for Confirmation instruction.</p>	<p>Parents support their child as they learn and grow in the Christian faith.</p> <p>Talk to children about the importance of learning the Catechism.</p> <p>Reinforce the importance of attending the Divine Service each week and being involved in the life of the church.</p> <p>Model a personal prayer life and encourage your child to pray with you. Teach them to pray.</p> <p>Parents lead their youth in family devotions around God's Word.</p>	<p>Talk to children about the importance of attending the Divine Service, learning God's Word and the Small Catechism.</p> <p>Attend school events to support the child.</p>	<p>Student books (CPH SAS curriculum): Grade 4–6*</p> <p>Use: Acts as a bridge to the beginning of Confirmation instruction, highlighting the core beliefs of Lutheran doctrine and practice as taught in the Small Catechism.</p> <p>Conversation Guide for Ages 12–14</p> <p>Use: Provides influential adults ways to talk with youth at the start of and during Confirmation instruction about how church work is integrated into the Lutheran faith.</p>

*Resources available in 2024