



# SURFACE TO SOUL

Live Well | Lead Well | Coach Well

## Age-related Faith Formation Outcomes

Our faith forming activities are designed to engage the head (knowledge and understanding), heart (reinforce key values), and hands (developing essential skills and practices needed for lifelong faith) and are attentive to people's ages and life stages. Listed below is a BRIEF summary of what we hope people between birth and age 18 will know, be able to do, and will regularly practice.

### BY KINDERGARTEN, WE STRIVE TO HELP A YOUNG PERSON ...

- Know when they were baptized and how baptism makes them part of God's family.
- Know that God created the world and loves all of God's creation.
- Know the name of our congregation, our denomination, and our pastors.
- Know the stories and characters mentioned in the SPARK Story Bible.
- Be able to identify the altar, baptismal font, the lectern, and organ if asked.
- Be able to recite scriptures related to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.
- Be able to recite the Lord's Prayer, and at least two mealtime and bedtime prayers.
- Be able to summarize the Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter stories.
- Practice Caring Conversations, mealtime and bedtime prayers, and serving the family at home.
- Experience the Baptism, Welcome to Worship, and First Bible milestones celebrations.

### BY 5TH GRADE, WE STRIVE TO HELP A YOUNG PERSON ...

- Know that there are two parts of the Bible and can name all 66 books
- Know that Jesus cared for the poor and sick, taught the disciples, and challenged Jewish leaders.
- Know the six seasons of the Church and the colors associated with each of the seasons.
- Know our congregation's order of service and the meaning and significance of each element.
- Be able to define sin, repentance, church, congregation, parables, apostles, and disciples.
- Be able to recite the Ten Commandments and the Nicene Creed.
- Be able to describe God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (or Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer).
- Be able to connect our celebration of communion with the Lord's Last Supper.
- Practice reading stories from the SPARK Story Bible to their parents and grandparents.
- Practice singing songs and hymns at home with family members.
- Experience the Communion and Going to Camp milestones celebrations.

### BY 9TH GRADE, WE STRIVE TO HELP A YOUNG PERSON ...

- Know the history, uniqueness, mission and vision of our congregation (and denomination).
- Know how the Bible was created, the types of Bible literature and ways people interpret scripture, and how our congregation interprets scripture.
- Be able to define grace, worship, stewardship, tithing, vocation, and spiritual gifts.
- Be able to describe your faith to others and learn about other people's understanding of God.
- Be able to name the Fruits of the Spirit and describe the birth and growth of the Church.
- Be able to name "next steps" in their life and faith journey.
- Practice praying daily (privately and publicly), reading scripture, and serving others.
- Experience the Confirmation Milestone, a short-term mission trip, and Peer Ministry Training.

### BY 12TH GRADE (OR 18 YEARS OF AGE), WE STRIVE TO HELP A YOUNG PERSON ...

- Know (understand) stewardship as a way of life that involves one's time, talents, and treasures.
- Practice taking ownership of his/her faith by seeking out guides and resources for the journey.
- Practice participating in God's Kingdom work/Christ's mission by using one's skills and abilities.
- Practice being a leader by framing conversations, asking questions, and modeling the way.
- Experience multiple ways to serve the local and global community.



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