



St. Wenceslaus Church

605.463.2336 • 205 N. Lidice Street • Tabor, SD 57063

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new year of **Youth Group** at St. Wenceslaus Parish! Father Urban, Barb Rezac and Terry Sestak are looking forward to working with the youth and families of the parish.

The annual **Family Mass** that marks the start of the RE Program will be **Wednesday, August 29th at 7:00 p.m.** in St. Wenceslaus Church. This mass is for all religious education students (Pre-K – 12th Grade). Please sit together as a family as we celebrate this start of this new RE Year.

Youth Group begins on Wednesday, September 5th. Normal meeting time will run from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. every Wednesday, unless otherwise stated at the Joe and Barb Rezac residence. The Rezacs start each evening off with a meal to be enjoyed by all in attendance.

If weather conditions are a concern and Youth Group needs to be cancelled, the announcement will be posted on the St. Wenceslaus Facebook page and via email if an e-mail address is provided. If a consent form has been filled out granting permission to text your youth, a text message will be sent to them. If Bon Homme School has called off classes or dismissed early due to bad weather, then Youth Group will be cancelled as well. If you have any questions, please contact the DREs or Father.

The Diocese of Sioux Falls requires the students of our Religious Education Program to receive annual, age-appropriate awareness training on how to keep themselves safe and report suspected abuse. Awareness training is presented at a Youth Group meeting by Barb Rezac and Terry Sestak who have also completed the safe environment program for adults. We will again be using the curriculum “Made In His Image”. As a parent, you have the right to opt your youth out of the scheduled instruction. If you choose to opt your youth out, please fill out the enclosed form and return to the DREs, Wednesday, September 5th. You will then receive the Safe Environment Training materials from the parish so that you may train your youth at home. They will still be expected to attend the meeting that night and will receive separate instruction from their class on a different faith based topic.

This year, the Diocese is requesting parental consent to publish pictures of minors in our religious education programs and parental consent to text message minors regarding religious education program content and parish activities. These are 2 new forms that we will need to keep on file for the entire religious education year. If we do not receive these forms back, your youth will not be able to be photographed in any parish activities and they will not be able to receive text message from the Youth Group Leaders regarding the upcoming event for the week. These forms will need to be filled out for each youth that attends the Youth Group. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the DREs.

The 2018 - 2019 Youth Group Calendar enclosed but is subject to change if a need arises.

Also enclosed are the following forms that must be returned:

- **2018-2019 Registration Form**
- **Photo & Video Release Form for Minors**
- **Consent to Text Messaging for Minors**
- **2018-2019 Consent and Liability Form**

Please return all forms to the DREs by September 5th. Feel free to deliver in person, mail to the rectory, or send via email to drestw@hcinet.net. Youth Group information and forms will also be posted on the church website.

To help put into practice what your youth learn in our RE programs, please provide opportunities for them to attend church in Tabor on Saturday's at 5:00 p.m., Sunday's at 10:30 a.m. or another town. Remember mass times change with daylight savings time; watch the bulletin.

God's Blessings,
Lisa Hauck
Grace Zimmerman
Directors of Religious Education