



Bethania Lutheran School

Christian Studies

Christian Studies underpins the ethos of our school and, at times, is carefully integrated with other subjects into Project Based Learning experiences. Christian Studies introduces children to the world of religion and spirituality, which are integral components of all cultures. In the senior primary years we present to students a Christian worldview and a pathway for making meaning in their lives. Christian Studies in the senior primary years provides an avenue for the Holy Spirit to grow faith and where all faith responses are encouraged, nurtured and expressed. The pedagogical approach in Christian Studies makes learning personally relevant, creates deep thinking and brings students to a place where they act on the challenges, values and beliefs communicated in the theology of the framework.

Content Specific Scope and Sequence of Learning & Teaching

The Christian Studies classroom is a learning environment in which students can explore a range of religious and non-religious perspectives they encounter in an increasingly pluralistic Australian society. Knowledge of other people's belief systems and analysis of the complex interplay of factors that contributes to an individual worldview, enrich students' ability to make sense of the world, determine the source of their own beliefs and values, and understand the role religion plays in society. A collaborative learning environment acknowledges and respects that students have diverse backgrounds, needs and interests. Students are mentored to:

- become articulate, empathic and discerning members of their communities
- develop religious literacy
- think, challenge and question, as well as listen to and identify the issues underlying discussion
- enter into open, respectful dialogue with people whose religious, philosophical, ethical views are different
- to present an informed, well-defended personal position

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Year 4

	Learning Statements	Units of Work & Teaching Focus
Unit 1	<p>Students describe connections between what Christians believe and the decisions they make (CW 3.3)</p> <p>Students explore and reflect on expressions of Christian spirituality as described in the New Testament and experienced in the school community (CW 3.2)</p>	<p>What Makes Bethania Lutheran School a Unique Place?</p> <p>Biblical perspectives affecting decision making - Creation is good and for the wellbeing of all people and all people are created in the image of God.</p> <p>Student beliefs and decision making.</p> <p>Beliefs of organisations, church affiliated and others, and examine what informs their decisions and the actions they take.</p>
Unit 2	<p>Students investigate and summarise what the Bible says about sin and grace (CB 3.3)</p> <p>Students recognise and analyse biblical textual features and investigate the purpose of the Bible (CC 3.1)</p>	<p>Exciting Explorations</p> <p>This unit of work is designed for students to examine the various forms of writing found in the Bible and the message of the writing. They investigate the ways God communicated with people as described in the Old and New Testaments. Students also consider what the Bible reveals about the nature of God.</p>
Unit 3	<p>Students investigate and analyze how God motivates, equips and uses Christians to serve others (CL 3.2)</p> <p>Students examine and reflect on the belief that God creates people to live in community (CL 3.1)</p>	<p>Christians are called to love and serve all people</p> <p>What is service?</p> <p>How have people served others?</p> <p>How can we serve others?</p>
Unit 4	<p>Students investigate and describe the purposes and significance of worship and sacramental practices of the Lutheran church (CC 3.3)</p>	<p>Worship</p> <p>This unit of work is designed for students to gain an understanding of worship, particularly within the context of corporate or community worship, within a church. Students explore the spaces, areas and features of church buildings as well as the elements of a worship service with particular emphasis on the sacraments and prayer.</p>

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Year 5

	Learning Statements	Units of Work & Teaching Focus
Unit 1	<p>Students research the social and cultural context in which Jesus lived and draw conclusions about how he chose to respond to people and events (CB 3.2)</p> <p>Students explore and report on Christian beliefs about the nature of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (CB 3.1)</p>	<p>How Did Jesus Live? Understanding the life, teaching and time of Jesus gives an insight into the powerful and radical message God communicated in Jesus. This equips the learner to reflect on the application of Jesus' actions and words to personal and social life today.</p>
Unit 2	<p>Students research key events in the history of Christianity and reflect on their significance over time and place (CC 3.2)</p> <p>Students explore and report on Christian beliefs about the nature of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (CB 3.1)</p> <p>Students research and describe the relationship between Christianity and Judaism (CW 3.1)</p>	<p>How Does the Holy Spirit Help People? Students explore the story of the Passover and its importance. They investigate the story of Jesus' institution of Holy Communion as he celebrated the Passover with his disciples. They identify the benefits Christians believe the Holy Spirit brings people through holy communion. Students also answer the question – what is the triune God? How do we know/experience this?</p>
Unit 3	<p>Students examine and reflect on the belief that God creates people to live in community (CL 3.1)</p> <p>Students investigate and analyse how God motivates, equips and uses Christians to serve others (CL 3.2)</p> <p>Students explore and respond to the Christian belief that God has given people responsibility for the world (CL 3.3)</p>	<p>Walk for Cambodia How can we serve others to help those in need? What responsibilities does God give us? How does God serve us? How does the Lutheran community serve?</p>
Unit 4	<p>Students recognise and analyse biblical textual features and investigate the purpose of the Bible (CC 3.1)</p> <p>Students research key events in the history of Christianity and reflect on their significance over time and place (CC 3.2)</p> <p>Students investigate and describe the purpose and significance of worship and sacramental practices of the Lutheran church (CC 3.3)</p>	<p>Worship and Prayer Communication with God Who is God? How and why do we communicate with Him? Praising God through prayer Praising God through song Praising God through worship</p>

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Year 6

	Learning Statements	Units of Work & Teaching Focus
Unit 1	<p>Students explore ways Christians interpret and act on their calling as stewards in God's world (CL 4.3)</p> <p>Students analyse the concept of Christian love and service as a response to faith (CL 4.2)</p>	<p>Market Day</p> <p>How do you start a not-for-profit Christian organisation? What is service? What does it mean to truly serve others? How did Jesus serve others? What is the meaning of the saying, 'Supreme Sacrifice' What does the Bible tell me about others acting as stewards in God's world?</p>
Unit 2	<p>Students develop skills to examine scriptures and analyse its cultural and historical contexts (CC 4.1)</p> <p>Students examine the development of Christian communities to compare how beliefs and the practices of these communities reflect their social and historical contexts (CC4.2)</p> <p>Students compare and contrast the origins, intention and diversity of Christian worship practices (CC4.3)</p>	<p>God and Church</p> <p>What sort of God does the church reveal to us? How are churches different? What does God say about the church in the Bible? How has the church changed? How can we worship God in nature? Can we design a bush chapel that incorporates the important elements of a church?</p>
Unit 3	<p>Students analyse Christian beliefs about the ways God reveals himself as one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (CB 4.1)</p> <p>Students examine people's need for spirituality and identify how Australians seek to fulfil it (CW 4.2)</p> <p>Students develop skills to examine scriptures and analyse its cultural and historical contexts (CC 4.1)</p>	<p>God Reveals Himself</p> <p>Who is God and How does He reveal Himself? What are the attributes of God? What relevance does God have to my life? How is God described in the Bible and interpreted by His creation? How is God one entity with three elements? What symbols and metaphors does the Bible use to explain God as Father, Son and Spirit?</p>
Unit 4	<p>Students examine the development of Christian communities to compare how beliefs and practices of these communities reflect their social and historical contexts (CC 4.2)</p>	<p>The Christian Church Begins and Grows</p> <p>How did the Christian Church begin? Who started the church? When did it start? What did the early church look like? What can we learn about the early church from reading the book of Acts? Who were the players in the beginning of the church? What was the work of the reformers? How have beliefs/history shaped expression of sacraments & rituals?</p>

Please note: These units are listed in a suggested sequence but can be taught in any order across the year. The units of work and teaching foci are also suggestions only but care should be taken if selecting another to ensure that the unit of another year level is not used. If you choose to plan a different unit of work, please do so in consultation with the Deputy Principal. For examples of units previously planned see the 'Curriculum' folder under 'Units of Work' on the school network.

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