

Emmanuel Lutheran School Agreement for Enrollment

Dear Parent,

We could not be more pleased and privileged to serve your family here at Emmanuel. We are passionate about our mission and thrilled to share the joy of Jesus with our students.

Emmanuel's mission is spiritual in nature. As the primary focus of the preschool and elementary school education we offer, we want every one of our students to learn more about what God reveals to us in the Bible: that he freely sent his Son to live and die as our substitute. At Emmanuel, spiritual matters are more than a class or a daily devotion. Lessons from God's Word are an integral part of everything we teach and do.

To that end, we realize that you might not be familiar with who we are or the spiritual nature of what we will teach your child. Therefore, please read the following basic outline of what we believe and teach. It is important to us that we be transparent and upfront with regard to the biblical truths we will teach your child.

We believe the Bible is the inspired and inerrant word of God. It clearly teaches all we need to know in order to obtain our eternal life.

(2 Peter 1:21, 1 Corinthians 2:13, 2 Timothy 3:16, John 10:35, Luke 11:28, John 5:39)

We believe there is only one true God. In the Bible God reveals himself as three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is why he is called "Triune." These three persons in one God are all God. They are equal in power, glory, and in every quality. To deny or ignore one person is to deny all of them. It is God who created, redeemed, and sanctified us.

(Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19, John 5:23, Genesis 1:1, 1 John 2:2, Romans 15:13)

We believe at the beginning of time God created heaven and earth and all creatures. He did this in six days—he spoke his almighty word to create all things. Man and woman are God's special creation. (Genesis 1:1, Genesis 1:31, Exodus 20:11, Psalm 33:6-9, Psalm 124:8, Mark 10:6, Hebrews 11:3)

We believe the first man and woman, Adam and Eve, lost the image of God when they gave in to the temptation of Satan and sinned by disobeying God's command. This brought on them the judgment of God. Since that time all people are conceived and born in sin, desire to do what is evil, and are dead spiritually. Therefore, we are unable to reconcile ourselves to God by our own efforts and deeds. (Genesis 2:17, Psalm 51:5, Ephesians 2:1, John 3:6, Psalm 5:4, Romans 5:12, 1 John 3:4, Romans 8:7-8)

We believe the message of the gospel is the good news that our loving God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to take away the sins of all people. The gospel freely offers to all sinners the righteousness that is found in Jesus. God offers and gives eternal life and salvation to all those who believe in the gospel promises. (*John 1:17, Romans 1:16, John 3:16, Colossians 2:13, Luke 2:10-11, Ezekiel 33:11*)

We believe Jesus Christ is the Savior of everyone. He is the eternal Son of God, equal to the Father and the Holy Spirit. He is also the son of the Virgin Mary. He became man to redeem all people. Taking our place, he lived a perfect life keeping the law of God for us. He also died as our innocent substitute on the cross to pay a price sufficient for everyone's sin. After rising from the dead, Jesus ascended into heaven. On the Last Day he will judge all people – both living and dead.

(1 John 5:20, Matthew 1:23, Ephesians 1:7, Galatians 3:13, Hebrews 4:15, Romans 1:4, Acts 10:42)

We believe God declared all sinners righteous in his sight when Jesus Christ died on the cross for us. God declared everyone free from the guilt and punishment owed for our sins. The sinner receives this free gift of forgiveness, not by doing good deeds, but only by faith, which is a gift of God. (Ephesians 2:8-9, 2 Corinthians 5:19, Romans 3:22-24, Romans 3:28, Romans 4:5, Mark 16:16)

We believe baptism is a sacrament, a sacred act instituted by Christ. Using water and God's Word, it offers and gives the forgiveness of sins, spiritual life, and eternal salvation. It is meant for young and old, including children. Infants are also sinful and therefore need the spiritual rebirth brought through baptism. (Matthew 28:19, John 3:5-6, Titus 3:5, Mark 10:14, Acts 22:16, Mark 16:16)

We believe Holy Communion is a sacrament instituted by Christ. Together with bread and wine we receive Jesus' true body and blood. In this special meal Jesus gives the forgiveness of sins, strengthens our faith, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

(Matthew 26:26-28, 1 Corinthians 10:16, 1 Corinthians 11:27-28, 1 Corinthians 10:17)

A more detailed summary of our beliefs is available online at wels.net. While you can certainly do some research on your own, we expect that parents would want to sit down and hear these teachings directly from one of our pastors so that they can ask questions and get clarifications as needed. For that reason, we will encourage you to attend one of our Bible Basics courses and work around your schedule as much as possible.

By enrolling your child in our school, you understand that these Bible-founded beliefs will be taught to your child, and you are giving us permission to serve your child in this way. It is also understood that your child is expected to participate in daily classroom devotions and attend our weekly chapel service. You are also strongly encouraged to make weekly worship at your home church or Emmanuel Lutheran Church a regular practice.

In the upper grade levels, our pastors participate in religious classroom instruction by teaching a confirmation class. By enrolling in this school, you acknowledge that participation in this class does not necessarily mean that your child will be confirmed at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Please speak with one of our pastors if you would like to work with us towards this goal so that we can talk about what it means to be confirmed.

It is also understood that your son/daughter will abide by the Christian and moral standards as prescribed to us in God's Word and outlined in our most recent family handbook.

Again, we are so appreciative to be able to serve your family. We thank you for partnering with us as we carry out our mission to you—we are here to provide an exceptional education, preserve a Christ-focused school culture, promote spiritual growth and Christian service, and prepare life-long disciples of Jesus Christ. May God bless our partnership!

Signature of Parent/Guardian	Printed Name of Parent/Guardian
Date	-