Northern Great Lakes Synod
Youth Ministry Spotlight

Memorable Milestones - a story about Lizzie

Lizzie exudes joy and hope for tomorrow. When asked what excites her about the future, she responded without hesitation, “Getting Confirmed!” Lizzie is in 8th grade and has witnessed her older brother and other youth at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rhinelander, WI participate in this affirmation of faith, and she is ready to experience it herself. As a Confirmation student this year, Lizzie looks forward to choosing and exploring a Bible verse that is meaningful to her, creating her own personal faith project, and becoming an adult member of the church.

Lizzie recognizes the significance of sacraments in the Lutheran church and gets excited about faith milestones. Up until this point, Lizzie’s favorite memory from church is when she received her First Communion. At a young age, Lizzie recalls going up front during Communion time and receiving a blessing from the pastor, but she felt like something was missing. When she was finally able to fully participate in Holy Communion herself, she felt a different sense of belonging to the faith community she grew up in.

Lizzie’s faith community feels more like a big family to her. When she is with her siblings in Christ, she feels like she is part of something bigger and is challenged to live into Jesus’ commandment to love one another. Lizzie joyfully serves as an acolyte and helps guide younger children during Immanuel’s Faith Explorers class. Lizzie shares her passion for cooking and baking by volunteering to make meals for the homeless shelter, and she enjoys caroling with her Immanuel family at Christmastime.

Lizzie is thoughtful and kind and she always makes time for her family, friends, and community. She wants everyone to know that God will always forgive and that we shouldn’t be afraid to fail or make mistakes. As Lizzie continues to grow in her faith, her cheerful heart and excitement about the future will help her continue to share Christ’s love with the world!