



Fifth Grade

Learning with a
Higher
purpose

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Holy Cross Lutheran School

About the Teacher: Mr. Dave Ochs



- Graduate of Concordia Teachers College Seward, NE
- Graduate of St. John's College Winfield, KS
- Graduate of Wichita East High School
- Graduate of Holy Cross Lutheran School Wichita, KS

Dave began his teaching career in 1980 at Holy Cross as a second grade teacher. In his years at Holy Cross he has had a variety of experiences, which include teaching third grade, and middle school Social Studies, P.E., and Biblical Studies. He has coached soccer, basketball, and track, and has served as the school Athletic Director from 1997-2011. Currently, Dave teaches fifth grade.

Dave's wife, Mary, is our school secretary. They have three grown children, all who are graduates of Holy Cross Lutheran School. They are proud grandparents of two grandsons!

In his spare time, Dave enjoys spending time with his family, gardening, working on home improvement projects, and occasionally, playing golf.

SUMMARY OF OUR EDUCATIONAL GOALS

In relationship to God

- ◇ The student grows in the grace and knowledge of the Triune God,
- ◇ The student is taught to live a Christian life through the power of the Holy Spirit, and that he/she has the assurance of eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and
- ◇ The student gains knowledge of the Bible and its contents.

In relationship to self, others, and community

- ◇ The student will develop a positive self-image, and
- ◇ The student will develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for living a productive Christian life as a responsible member of his/her church, community, and world.

In relationship to intellectual development

- ◇ The student will develop academic talents and skills to the fullest extent of his/her ability,
- ◇ The student will develop positive attitudes toward learning, and
- ◇ The student shall be exposed to cultural activities, fine arts, and various types of music through classroom study, exhibits, direct participation, and field trips.

Fifth Grade Curriculum Overview

Biblical Studies

The fifth grade religion course begins with a study of the birth and development of the Protestant Christian church and a review of the major Old Testament themes and people. The major part of the course then surveys the life of Christ as based upon the Gospel of St. Luke. **The text used is *One in Christ*, by Concordia Publishing House. Also, the *New International Version of the Bible* is used.**

Language Arts

The language arts program, *Wonders* by McGraw Hill, is designed to provide students with many opportunities to explore reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Using a phonetic approach to reading and the skills of a basal reading program, the curriculum expands the student's reading ability by emphasizing comprehension and reading for information and for enjoyment. Award winning literature provides for the application of reading skills and the enjoyment of reading. Reading various kinds of literature, narrative, folk tales, biography, poetry, fiction and non-fiction, and drama, expand the student's understanding of literature. By emphasizing the writing process, students gain first hand applications for the grammar, spelling, and writing skills which they learn in class.

Mathematics

Students continue to apply their computational skills to large whole numbers but now apply the skills to decimal and fractional numbers as well. Knowledge of fractions is broadened by determining greater and smaller fractions and by writing fractions of equivalent value. Skills in measuring angles and comparing geometric shapes are also expanded. Students investigate the different forms of graphs and how the data in graphs can be used to visualize quantities and measurements. As an introduction to solving equations, students learn how to determine percent, ratio, and use probability. The text used is *Saxon Math*.

Social Studies

The fifth grade program is a study of American history and geography. Students also trace the development of our country from the earliest inhabitants of America to the explorers and finally to modern time. The text used is *United States in Modern Times* by Harcourt Brace.

Science

This program emphasizes the process of investigating and reaching conclusions after utilizing a process of stating a hypothesis, observing outcomes, and collecting data. Fifth graders center their investigations on topics from life, physical and earth sciences, as well as health and safety. The text used is *Science* by Scott Foresman.