

## The Holy Supper

by Debbie Streicher

When a child is baptized at a young age, they cannot answer for themselves. Parents and other adults bring the child for baptism and are entrusted with responsibilities and make a promise to “help their children grow in the Christian faith and life”. One of the responsibilities is to bring the child to *the word of God and the holy supper*. (ELW pg. 228)

When our children are baptized, there is a very clear expectation that we follow up on the promises made at baptism. In today’s world when our busy lives are challenged with calendars filled with activities, one might wonder when there is time to follow up on these promises. Sports and theater practices take place on Sunday as well as many other school activities making it a challenge to fulfill the promise of bringing children to the word of God and the holy supper especially in their elementary and high school years. But a promise is a promise and raising our children in a life of faith means making it a priority, not a challenge. One must manage and adjust schedules along with make time to hear God’s word and receive the holy supper in a community of faith. It is an essential part of growing in one’s faith for all ages. Milestones Ministry has five principles of faith formation:

- Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships – often in our own homes.
- The church is a living partnership between the ministry of the congregation and ministry of the home.
- Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church too!
- Faith is caught more than it is taught.
- If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults who practice the faith with them.

We, the adults, who are primary role models for not only our own children, but others, need to remember especially principles four and five. Children and youth “catch” faith by watching our own actions. If we want them to live Christian lives, we need to practice the faith with them. When we receive Holy Communion, we are involving all ages in a practice than can be “caught” easily. Jesus asked us to do this in remembrance of him. And if we want our children to live Christian lives, we need to participate and practice also. Milestones Ministry has a Communion Milestone celebration that includes several opportunities to learn about the Lord’s Supper: bread baking, optional pottery making and a follow-up with a Seder Supper. It is written for children, parents, other caregivers and congregational mentors to experience together.

[Communion Milestone](#)