Timeline
22nd Confirmation Class Handout

- Before Time: Stories of Creation, Adam & Eve, Noah (great flood), tower of Babel, Job.
- 2000ish BC - Abraham is born who begot Ishmael and Isaac; Isaac begot Jacob and Esau; Jacob’s name is changed to Israel, Israel begot 12 sons including Joseph who become the 12 tribes of Israel.
- 1800s BC - Israel moves to Egypt with sons during famine under Joseph’s care. Pretty soon after Joseph’s death, his family, the Israelites are for the next 400 years, enslaved by Egypt.
- 1400s BC – Moses leads Israelites out of Egypt. Israelites enter Canaan (the promised land), and become a country.
- 1047 BC – Israel gets their first King – King Saul (not necessarily a good thing, see 1 Sam. 8:1-21).
- 926 BC - Israel splits into Judah and Israel (offspring of King Solomon fighting for power splits the country).
- 723 - 586 BC - Both countries are overrun by Assyria, then Babylon – Israelites exiled to Babylon.
- 166-163 BC – The Maccabees uprising. A small geographical area around Jerusalem is freed from foreign oppression. This is the celebration marked by Hanukkah. No king, though, is instated.
- 63 BC - Rome overtakes Jerusalem (along with the rest of the known world).
- 0-6 AD Jesus is born.
- 33 - 36 AD Crucifixion of Jesus; Pentecost – birth of the Church.
- 70 AD - Jerusalem is leveled by the Romans - disciples of Jesus are scattered throughout world.
- 312 AD - Constantine becomes Emperor of Western Rome - as a way to weaken Eastern Rome, he legalizes Christianity. He eventually conquers Eastern Rome, which also spreads Christianity.
- 397 AD - 3rd Synod of Carthage votes on what goes in and what doesn't go in what we now call the Bible. New Testament is voted ”closed” at this time.
- 1054 AD - The official date of "The Great Schism." The Christian Church splits into The Russian/Eastern Orthodox Church and what we now call the Roman Catholic Church.
- 1095 AD - The first crusade (in all, there were 9 crusades. The last one was in 1295).
- 1517 AD - Martin Luther posts his 95 Thesis - the beginning of the Reformation.
- 1534 AD - The birth of the Church of England (from which the Puritans are raised, then flee to the Netherlands before eventually coming to what we now so dearly call New England).
- 1620 AD – Pilgrims/Puritans land at Plymouth Rock.
- 1948 AD - Britain relinquishes their control of Palestine to the Jews - who promptly declare Israel a sovereign state. Within hours, Arab countries attack (Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan).
- 1949 AD - Israel wins war and gains more land. 1st time in 2900 years that Israel is independent AND geographically unified.
- 1957 AD - Birth of the United Church of Christ – an oddity since it was the combining of four denominations instead of a splitting of one denomination into more (The four denominations that came together were The Congregational Churches of the English Reformation with Puritan New England roots in America, The Christian Church with American frontier beginnings, The Evangelical Synod of North America, a 19th-century German-American church of the frontier Mississippi Valley, and the Reformed Church in the United States, initially composed of early 18th-century churches in Pennsylvania and neighboring colonies, unified in a Coetus in 1793 to become a Synod).
- 1967 AD - Israel and Egypt goto war. Called the 6 day war. Israel wins and gains Jerusalem and Gaza strip which has been problematic areas ever since.
- 2009 AD - There are now over 20,000 Christian denominations.
- <insert name of your church and the date it was founded>
~ Timeline of Church History ~

One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church
~ The Orthodox Church ~

New Testament Era
(45 - 80 Gospels of Matthew, Mark & Luke are written)

33 Pentecost
49 Council at Jerusalem
70 Destruction of Jerusalem as foretold by Christ
95 Book of Revelation written
150 Justin Martyr describes the Divine Liturgy
215 - 290 Rise of Christian schools in Alexandria and Antioch
325 First Ecumenical Council ~ Nicene Creed
326 Empress Helen discovers the cross of Christ
397 Synod of Carthage ratifies Biblical Canon (NT closed)
451 Council of Chalcedon
563 The Great Church, Hagia Sophia consecrated in Constantinople
589 Filioque added to Nicene Creed (Error later adopted by Rome)
787 Seventh Ecumenical Council (Icons approved)
880 The Photian Schism

397 - 460
Nestorian and
Oriental Orthodox Churches Formed

Seven Ecumenical Councils

1054 Great Schism

1204 Sack of Constantinople

1333 Gregory Palamas defends Orthodox spirituality

1453 Turks overrun Constantinople

1589 Patriarch in Russia

1794 Russian Missionaries arrive in Alaska and introduce Orthodox Christianity to America

1833 St. Seraphim of Sarov

1988 1,000 Years of Orthodox Christianity in Russia

2005 1,972 years of Orthodoxy Christianity

Roman Catholicism

1066 Norman conquest of Britain (Orthodox hierarchs are replaced with those loyal to Rome)

Crusades 1095 - 1291

1455 Gutenberg prints the Bible

1517 Luther’s Thesis (Reformation Begins)

Protestantism

1529 Church of England formed
1729 Methodist Church formed
1845 So Baptist Church formed
1916 Pentecostal Church formed
2005 Over 20,000 Christian “denominations”

Note: All Christian churches can be traced back historically to the Orthodox Church founded by the Lord Jesus Christ.