

CONFIRMATION: THE AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Confirmation at Our Saviour's is provided for all ages over 7th grade, as students feel they are ready to take a step deeper into their faith lives. All students must complete, or test out, of the following topics:

BIBLE:

- Intro to the Bible*
- Creation: From Genesis and Beyond
- Notable Hebrew Bible Characters: who, what, when, where?*
- The Laws: From 613 to 10 to 2*
- The Prophets: Who are they and do they still matter?*
- From Slavery into Freedom: The Story of God's Chosen People*
- The Psalms*
- Jesus and the Gospels (2hr)*
- Jesus: From Death to Life*
- Acts, the Apostles, and the Early Church*
- The Story of St. Paul*
- Paul's Letters*
- Revelation and "The End"*

MARTIN LUTHER AND LUTHERAN HISTORY:

- Martin Luther: His Story**
- Continued Reformation: From Luther to ELCA*
- The 10 Commandments*
- The Lord's Prayer/Prayer*
- The Creeds*

FAITH FOR TODAY:

- Worship, Liturgy, and "Churchy Words"*
- Confession and Forgiveness: Is God's Grace for Me?
- Holy Communion
- Baptism and Affirmation of Baptism (2hr)
- Councils and Committees: Who leads the church? (2hr)
- Spiritual Gifts: How Can I Serve?***
- Spiritual Practices: Does Practice make Perfect?* (2hr)
- Death and Dying (2hr)
- In the Image of God: Created to Create (2hr)
- Doubt and Darkness: Where is God in the Struggles?

**independent study available*

Confirmation is not just about knowledge, but about growing as a person of faith and preparing to be a full participant in the church. Students preparing to affirm their baptisms are expected to complete the following requirements alongside the regular classes:

Worship Notes – 30 total

Students are expected to complete a total of 30 worship notes over their confirmation experience. These can be found in the student binders and completed in any order.

- These notes only count for in-person services.
- Students can fill these out for Sundays as well as any special services (Christmas, Lent, etc....)
- If your family is traveling and will be attending church elsewhere, you are allowed to fill out a note for that church service and bring back a bulletin from the service to accompany your completed note for credit.

Youth Trip/Project

Students may swap a youth trip, mission project, or week of camp with 20 worship notes. This can happen on your own, in our church group, or with another congregation. If cost is prohibitive, please talk to the pastor about scholarship options.

Service & Stewardship – 40 total points

Because confirmation is meant to prepare students to make faithful promises and enter into life as a full participating member of our congregations, they will be asked to prepare for this role in various ways. A student cannot use the same 'project' more than 3 times, in hopes that they venture outside their comfort zone. Students are to turn in a service and stewardship log sheet upon completion of each project.

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| • *Prepare & Deliver Sermon – 15 | • Serve Sunday Coffee Fellowship – 4 |
| • *Prepare & Deliver Children Sermon – 8 | • *Visit homebound member (non-relative) - 5 |
| • *Assist Pastor during Service – 5 | • Attend high school youth group - 4 |
| • Special Music during Service – 5 | • Photography for Special Event – 3 |
| • Read Scripture during Service – 4 | • Help deep clean area of church – 5 |
| • Usher– 3 | • *Assist with Sunday School - 3 |
| • Serve Communion – 2 | • Attend Church Service Project – 2/pt per hr. |
| • Assist the Sound Tech – 2 | • Kitchen helper for special event - 3 |
| • Be the Sound Tech – 5 | • Song Leader in Church – 5 |
| • Sunday morning greeter – 1 | • Attend Church Council Meeting – 2 |
| • Set up/take down tables for event - 2 | Other ideas? See pastor for approval. |

**Will be planned and executed with help of pastor.*

Lenten Project

Confirmation classes do not meet during the season of Lent. During this “break” time, students will complete a project to further their knowledge and connection to our community. Project options will be distributed and chosen by the student in the weeks leading up to Lent and due the week after Easter.

Faith Statement

Students nearing the completion of the program will be instructed on how to write a statement of faith, to be read on their confirmation day. This is done alongside the pastor and other faithful adults.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

How long does the program take to complete?

This is completely up to your student and their level of commitment. While it is possible to complete the entire program in one year, it is laid out with the expectation that a student will take 2 years to complete all requirements if working at a steady, but not overwhelming pace. Some students, however, who choose other extra-curriculars over confirmation classes will take longer to complete the program. There is no right or wrong amount of time – this is modeled to fit into your lives when it works for you, rather than forcing students to be here every single week, regardless of other commitments.

How often will classes be offered?

This year, due to scheduling issues, classes will be offered once. Classes will be offered on Sunday afternoons in modules that have combined classes that play off one another. Classes are always available for independent study if this schedule does not work for your family.

Does my child have to start the fall of 7th grade?

No. Your child is welcome to start when they are ready to dig deeper in their faith and have the maturity level to sit through deep discussions and handle the expectations. A few students may be mature enough to start this process the fall of 7th grade, others may not be ready until 8th or 9th grade. Students wanting to begin in 7th grade must first meet with the pastor, along with one parent, to decide readiness and explain expectations. Not all 7th grade students will be invited to begin at this stage.

What if my child isn't ready? Is there something else they can participate in?

Yes! Connect will continue to be offered for grades 5-8. So even if your child isn't participating in confirmation programming right away, there is something for them to be involved in at the church.

How does my child sign up for a class?

There is no need to sign up for a class ahead of time, unless it is marked as a special class that will require a headcount. These are noted on the schedule. Simply text or email Pastor Kayla to let her know your child will be participating.

How does my child "test" out of a class?

If a student believes they have the necessary knowledge of a certain course and would like to test out, they simply need to stop by the church and take the test for that topic. Students receiving higher than 70% scores will be given credit for that course. Students can only attempt the test once per topic.

When will confirmation day be? Confirmation day will be held on October 13th, 2024. Most years, confirmation will land on reformation day, assuming there are no other conflicts that Sunday.