



# Confirmation Program

For Youth Beginning in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

School Year 2018-2019

Dear Youth,

Welcome to Confirmation! We are so excited to journey with you as you grow in your faith, and journey toward your Affirmation of Baptism Service! Together with a community of people who care about you, we hope to help you affirm the promises that were made on your behalf on the day of your baptism, promises to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

We have made some changes to the Confirmation Program and are trying something BRAND NEW this year. These changes are made with YOU in mind – to help you continue to grow and learn, and deepen your faith, while also helping you to balance the numerous commitments that we know you try to juggle every day.

We know there will be road bumps as we enter this journey together. We simply ask that we try to stick on the path together – that we work together to communicate well, so that our program can meet its goals. Please reach out to us at any time with any questions, comments, concerns, and with feedback about this program! We want to hear from you!

The following pages will explain the content of this program in more detail. Should you have any questions or concerns at any point, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here for you!

In Christ,




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## Basics about the Our Savior's Confirmation Program

University Model Confirmation Program: We have designed the Confirmation program to be customizable. You will have a number of required classes to complete before your Confirmation Day – you choose what you take and when you take it.

Electives: Electives allow you to choose classes that you are really interested in, diving deeper into areas in your faith that you are excited about, helping you develop your faith in areas that may help you serve the church as an adult member.

Core Classes: Core classes are basic, fundamental classes that will help you understand your faith, and the teachings of ELCA Lutherans in a faithful way to be able to affirm those important promises on your confirmation day.

Scheduling: Because everyone has different scheduling requirements, and because families schedules vary, you can come up with the schedule that meets your needs the best. Want to finish as quickly as you can? You can do that. Want to draw this program out throughout your High School years? You can do that too.

Class Length: Each class is designed to fit into a 6 hour block, but the format varies. Some classes will meet every-other week. Some classes will meet every week, one hour per week. The thing that will stay the same is the amount of class hours – 6 hours of instruction time per class.

Attendance: Good attendance is an important part of this program, so you need to be certain that you do not miss more than 1 hour of class time. Don't sign up for the class if you have any conflicts – use that 1 hour of class time miss for only unavoidable absences – like being sick, or a family funeral. If you miss more than 1 hour of class time, you will need to repeat the class again.

Confirmation Day: Confirmation day will take place on the first Sunday of May each year. Students who have registered for enough classes to meet the requirements by the spring term each year will be invited to write their faith paper and prepare for confirmation Sunday.

Minimum Enrollment: Courses with less than 3 students enrolled may be cancelled, unless a student is depending on that particular class to reach their confirmation goals.

# Confirmation Requirements

## Core Classes:

The 6 Core classes are: Bible Basics, Old Testament Overview, New Testament Overview, Lutheran Theology, Service Adventures, and Being an Adult Member. Descriptions of these courses are available in the course catalog.

## Electives:

3 Electives – You must choose from and take 3 elective courses before your Confirmation Day. Samples of electives you can choose from are located in the course catalog.

## Mentor:

At some point on your confirmation Journey (you choose when), you will need to identify a mentor and meet with them on your own. (We recommend meeting at church between services, or at another public place like a coffee shop.) Together with your mentor, you will complete and turn in 4 mentor assignments, located at church. Mentors must be a member of Our Savior's and an adult over 21+ that you are not related to. If you need help finding a mentor, please ask!

## Sermon Notes:

Each student will need to complete 45 Sermon Notes forms during your years of Confirmation. These forms are available at church in the boxes near the office. Turn them in when you are done. Please make sure you fill them out completely. Forms that are missing blanks, forms that are poorly filled out, or forms that show that you weren't really paying attention will be returned to you with no credit given. The purpose of sermon notes is for you to learn how to be an active worshipper, and how to engage in a faithful way in the time of worship. Worship is central to the life of the Christian, and we want to help you get the most out of it, so that as an adult you can do these things too!

## Faith Paper:

As you prepare for the day of confirmation, we will invite you to write a Faith Paper. This paper is the capstone of your Confirmation Journey, and we expect you to spend some intentional time and energy on it. If you would like a copy of the Faith Paper assignment, please ask!

## Previous Enrollees in Confirmation:

If you were enrolled in confirmation previously and are entering confirmation as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader in 2018-2019, you will need to take 3 courses to be confirmed in May 2019 (We highly recommend you take 'being an adult member' as one of your 3 courses.) If you are entering as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader in 2018-2019, you will need to take 6 courses prior to confirmation Sunday. 9<sup>th</sup> graders will need to do 15 Sermon Notes. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will need to do 30 sermon notes.

## 2018-2019 Confirmation Schedule

### Fall 2018 -

Bible Basics (Wednesday 7 PM-8 PM) Sept 12-Oct 17

Christian Worship (Wednesdays - October 10, 6-7PM, October 24-6-8PM, November 7-6-8PM, November 21 6-7 PM – Ends with the class leading the thanksgiving Eve Service)

Service Adventures (Sunday 5 PM-7:00 PM) (Nov. 11, Dec. 2, Dec. 16)

Old Testament Overview (Sunday 12:00PM-1:00 PM - Bring a bag lunch) Sept 9, Sept 23, Oct 7, Oct 21, Nov. 4, Nov. 18)

### Spring 2019-

New Testament Overview (Wednesday 6:30-7:45PM January 30, February 6, 13, 20,27)

Being an Adult Member (Sunday 12:00 PM-1:00 PM - Bring a bag lunch) January 6,13, 20, 27, February 3, 10)

Lutheran Theology (Wednesday 4:15-6:15 March 6, 20, April 3)

### Summer 2019-

Bible Study - Psalms Tuesday, 1:30PM-2:30 PM June 18, 25, July 9, 16, 23, 30

What do Others Believe? Wednesday, 4pm-5:30 June 19, 26, July 10, 17

# Course Catalog

## Required Courses

### Bible Basics

We will review basics about the Bible and investigate the questions that we have about the Bible: What is this book? Who wrote it? Is it true? How did the books come together to make the Bible? What does the Bible mean for us here, now, and today? Why should we read it?

### Old Testament Overview

We will introduce and explore the story arc of the Old Testament, as well as examining the traditional groupings of 1) the Pentateuch, 2) Historical Books, 3) Wisdom Literature, 4) Major Prophets, and 5) Minor Prophets.

### New Testament Overview

We will introduce and explore the story arc of the New Testament, focusing specifically on God's redemptive work through Jesus Christ. We will look at who Jesus interacted with and where Jesus did his work as well as how Jesus' work continued after the resurrection through the church and Holy Spirit.

### Lutheran Theology

We will explore the rich theological gifts of our branch of Christianity, and how they give us the tools to read scripture and our lives of faith. Topics may include the Apostles' Creed, Sinner and Saint, Theology of the Cross, Law and Gospel, the Sacraments, the Catechism, and more!

### Service Adventures

These days of service will begin with a reading from scripture followed by our class doing a mission project that relates to our reading with a goal of connecting faith to service to the neighbor. Possible examples: reading about Jesus feeding the 5000 before touring and helping out at the food shelf, or reading about taking care of the widow and outcast before making blankets that will go to homeless women and youth. Join us as we learn how to connect our faith to acts of love and service.

### Being an Adult Member

Gathering with other members of Our Savior's, we will explore ways youth can engage their faith through participation and leadership in ministries of the church, and hear where others in this congregation find life, and experience the presence and love of God.

## Course Catalog

*Electives (classes will be updated on a yearly basis, based on interest and participation)*

Christian Worship (offered every year, this class leads Thanksgiving eve service)

We will be reviewing the shape of worship, focusing on how each element of worship comes together to tell God's story for our lives. Members of this course will have the opportunity to put what they have learned into practice as they lead (with help from other youth and the Pastors) the Thanksgiving Eve worship service.

Bible Study - Paul's Letters

This course will give an overview of how Paul's (New Testament) letters fit into the story of the early church, but will focus on one particular letter for the duration of the Bible study. Youth will be encouraged to make notes in their Bible, so it needs to be brought for each session.

Bible Study – Psalms

This course will give an overview of the different types of Psalms and they were and are used in worship and family life. We will be flagging different psalms for future reference as well as doing a deep dive on a few specific Psalms. Youth will be encouraged to make notes in their Bible, so it needs to be brought for each session.

Bible Study – Prophets

This course will give an overview of how one specific Prophetic book fits into the story of the Old Testament and look specifically at how God's story of redemption unfolds in that book. Youth will be encouraged to make notes in their Bible, so it needs to be brought for each session.

Church Music and Hymnody

We will explore the rich musical gifts of Christianity, its history as well as its function in corporate worship, private gatherings, and culture. We will look at multiple hymns, hymnals and other media to gain a better understanding of what we sing, why, and how it is chosen.

What do others believe?

Christianity, and more specifically Lutheran Christianity, isn't the only belief system in the world. We will give an overview of some of the notable differences in Christian Denominations as well as broadly what other world religions teach. We do this, being as fair to our neighbor as we can, not to become our neighbor but to better understand them. Understanding what other faiths believe can help us to learn and better appreciate our own beliefs, as well as learn to love and respect our neighbors.



## Confirmation Registration Form 2018-2019

Student's Full Name (F/M/L)			
Date of Birth:			
Have you been baptized?			
Grade:			
Mother's Name:			
Father's Name:			
Mother's Address:			
Father's Address:			
Who should we mail & email? Mother, Father, or Both?			
	Student	Mother	Father
Home Phone:			
Cell Phone:			
Work Phone:			
Email Address:			

(Over)



Serving Ministry: Please Circle	
Reader	Usher
Tech Desk	Nursery

If any of the following applies to you, give a brief explanation.		
Food Allergy	Special Need(s)	Add'l Info

Class Registration: Please sign me up for the following classes for 2018-2019 *Please check the schedule before selecting classes*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Basics	<input type="checkbox"/> Christian Worship
<input type="checkbox"/> Service Adventures	<input type="checkbox"/> Old Testament Overview
<input type="checkbox"/> New Testament Overview	<input type="checkbox"/> Being an Adult Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Lutheran Theology	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study - Psalms
<input type="checkbox"/> What do others Believe?	