

Confirmation Program

For Youth Beginning in 7th Grade

School Year 2021-2022

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.

Responding to deeper need for community among our members, we have made some changes this year. We believe them to be positive changes for everyone, and we look forward to introducing them to you over the next pages.

We know there will be road bumps as we enter this journey together. This is normal. 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

Years 1, 2, and 3: Confirmation will be broken up into years 1,2, and 3. Students may begin year 1 anytime beginning in 7th grade or later.

Years 1 & 2: Meet on Sunday mornings during the education hour. All of these students meet in person in one large group, and the curriculum alternates each year between a Bible focus and a Theology focus. This group meets about 3x/month. This group meets in person; a zoom option will be available and will be recorded for any students not able to be present for occasional conflicts.

Year 3: Meet with mentors once per month during the education hour. If mentor or student have a conflict, they can meet on a different Sunday.

Online option: If any students who are enrolled in previous versions of our confirmation program would like, they may complete their program under previous guidelines with our online classes through google classroom.

Previous Program Students: We will work with you and look at your work completed to date to determine the best class placement for your student (Year 1, Year 2, or Year 3.) Generally, 3 classes completed = Year 2, 6 classes completed = Year 3. We are happy to have this conversation with you individually to help you figure out how to meet your goals. Some students may complete years 2 and 3 simultaneously. We will work with you – it is our goal that this transition be as seamless as possible.

Attendance: We encourage all students to make confirmation a focal priority in their life. It is a great opportunity to ask important faith questions and to grow in your faith and to grow close with your group of peers. As we have learned over the last year, the relationships in our lives are so very important! We know that some conflicts, with the crazy schedules and various situations involved, are inevitable. Any classes you miss will need to be made up by watching the recording and answering some questions about your experience (we will have a form for this.) This will need to be turned in within 3 weeks of your absence. Videos of the classes will be available for two weeks. If you have conflicts that are seasonal in nature or that go beyond 2 weeks in a row of missed classes, please talk with us so that we can discuss options ahead of your absence.

Confirmation Day: Confirmation day will take place on the first Sunday of May each year. Students in their 3rd year who have completed their mentor assignments will be invited to write their final faith paper and prepare for confirmation Sunday.

Registration: Please register online on our website at www.oursaviorshartland.org before the first week of classes so that we have updated contact information for you. There is a \$25 materials fee per year of confirmation. You can pay this on our website or by making a check out to the church with "confirmation" in the memo line.

Confirmation Requirements

Years 1 & 2: General Class Work:

Years 1 and 2 will comprise of study of the Old and New Testaments, important items in Lutheran Theology, a general study of other religions, and a unit of "tough questions" – i.e. "Why do bad things happen to good people?"

3rd Year: Mentor:

During your 3rd year, you will need to identify a mentor. Together with your mentor, you will complete and turn in a monthly mentor assignment. 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!

Serving in Worship:

All students will be asked to Acolyte on a rotational basis. If you would like to reduce the number of times that you Acolyte by serving in other capacities at church, these opportunities will be discussed in early fall 2021.

Sermon Notes:

Each student will need to complete 30 Sermon Notes forms during your 3 year(s) of Confirmation. These forms are available at church in the boxes near the office or online on our website. 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!

2021-2022 Confirmation Schedule (Years 1 & 2)

September 12 Lutheran Theology: Martin Luther

September 19 Martin Luther: Part 2

September 26 Baptism

October 3 Holy Communion

October 10 NO CLASS

October 17 Prayer

October 24 The Lord's Prayer

October 31 The Lord's Prayer

November 7 NO CLASS

November 14 How do I get to Heaven?

November 21 Is it Okay to be Angry at God?

November 28 NO CLASS

December 5 Did God create the Devil?

December 12 Evolution

December 19 Why does God let bad things happen?

December 26 NO CLASS

January 9 Can I do something to make God stop loving me?

January 16 Does Revelation really describe how the world will end?

January 23 Who wrote the Bible?

January 30 NO CLASS

February 6 Is the Bible True?

February 13 Why does the Bible contradict itself at times?

February 20 NO CLASS

February 27 Apostles Creed

March 6 Apostles Creed

March 13 *No Class*

March 20 Apostles Creed

March 27 Other Christian Denominations

<u>April 3</u> Other Religions

April 10 End of year Party & Review

2021-2022 Confirmation Schedule (Year 3)

September 19 - What does a mentor do?

October 17 - Worship

November 14 – My Faith History

December 12 - Holidays & Traditions

January 30- Attend annual meeting together

February 13- How can I serve?

March 20 - What is the Church?

April 10- Faith and the Future