



Confirmation Program

For Youth Beginning in 7th Grade

School Year 2022-2023

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 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 Lutheran Theology focus. This group meets most weeks, with a few breaks here and there, and also goes to Super Youth Group once per month. (See Schedule on the following pages)

Year 3: Meet with mentors once per month during the education hour and once per month at Super Youth Group. If mentor or student have a conflict, they can meet on a different Sunday. This year can be completed simultaneously with year 2 if students wish. (See Schedule on the following pages)

Super Youth Group: Students in Years 1, 2, and 3 are required to come to youth group once per month. These "Super Youth Group" days are SUPER fun and we know you will have a SUPER great time. They are on the calendar on the following pages. Please mark your calendar now with all of these dates and plan to attend. If you miss one, you can make it up by attending regular youth group on a different Sunday night. Please talk to us if you have a conflict that makes this not 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 few years, the relationships in our lives are so very important! We know that some conflicts, with the crazy schedules and various situations involved, are inevitable. 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. (May 7, 2023 for this 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. See the next pages for information about mentors and their role. If you need help finding a mentor, please ask! We do have ideas of people to ask, but we like to find out what type of mentor you are looking for before making suggestions! Feel free to ask for more info!

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, please indicate this on your registration form.

Sermon Notes:

There are no sermon notes this year! However, there are worship attendance requirements (see below!)

Worship Attendance:

Each Confirmation student (in years 1, 2, and 3) is required to attend worship in person 2x monthly. There will be a book near the office to sign in each Sunday. If you fall behind we will reach out to help you and offer suggestions, though we do suggest making worship a priority for your whole family!

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!

2022-2023 Confirmation Schedule (Years 1 & 2)

September 11 The Bible: Let's start from the very beginning, a very good place to start!

September 18 Creation: Can I accept the theory of evolution and still be a Christian?

September 25 Creation: A second story (Adam & Eve)

September 25 – 6:30-8 PM Super Youth Group

October 2 Noah: The Obedient Eccentric

October 9 Abraham & Sarah: The Ordinary Patriarchs

October 16 Jacob: The conniving Survivor

October 23 Joseph: The Virtuous Dreamer

October 30 Moses: The Frustrated Leader

October 30 – 6:30-8 PM Super Youth Group

November 6 No Class

November 13 Daniel: the Invincible Visionary

November 20 Jonah: The Passive-Aggressive Coot

November 20 - 6:30-8 PM Super Youth Group

November 27 *Thanksgiving Break*

December 4 Mary the Mother of Jesus: The Long-Suffering Mom

December 11 John the Baptist: The Rustic Herald

December 18 Centurion: The Roman Convert

December 18 – 6:30-8 PM Super Youth Group

December 25 & January 1 *Christmas/New Year's Break*

January 8 The 12 Disciples: The Provincial Bumpkins

January 15 Sheep: The Innocent Wanderers

January 22 Simon Peter: The Earnest Blockhead

January 22 - 6:30-8 PM Super Youth Group

January 29 Syrophenician Woman: The Mama Bear

February 5 Sadducees & Pharisees: The Legalistic Bureaucrats

February 12 Mary & Martha: The Bickering Sisters

February 19 No Class: *Winter Break*

February 26 Judas Iscariot: The Disappointed Revolutionary

February 26 – 6:30-8 PM Super Youth Group

March 5 Pontius Pilate: The Troubled Politician

March 12 Mary Magdalene: The Unsung Apostle

March 19 Thomas: The Zealous Fool

March 19 6:30-8 PM Super Youth Group

March 26 -April 2 – Spring Break

April 9 *Easter Break*

April 16 Saul/Paul: The Relentless Evangelist

April 23 Jesus: Was He God? And Did Jesus know he was God?

April 30 Last day of Class – Year in Review & Party!

April 30 – 6:30-8 PM Super Youth Group

2022-2023 Confirmation Schedule (Year 3)

September 11 – 10:00 AM What does a mentor do? How to Find & Select a Mentor (you will need to bring your mentor to the session in October) If you already have your mentor secured, you don't need to attend this one!

September 25 – 7:00-8:00 PM Super Youth Group

October 9 – 10:00 AM Meet with Mentor: Worship

October 30 – 7:00 – 8:00 PM Super Youth Group

November 13 – 10:00 AM Meet with Mentor: My Faith History

November 20 – 7:00-8:00 PM Super Youth Group

December 11 – 10:00 AM Meet with Mentor: Holidays & Traditions

December 18 – 7:00-8:00 PM Super Youth Group

January 22 – 7:00-8:00 PM Super Youth Group

January 29 - Attend annual meeting with Mentor (See E-blast for time)

February 12- 10:00 AM Meet with Mentor: How can I serve?

February 26 – 7:00-8:00 PM Super Youth Group

March 12 – 10:00 AM Meet with Mentor: What is the Church?
& Intro to Faith Paper

March 19 – 7:00-8:00 PM Super Youth Group

April 16- 10:00 AM Meet with Mentor: Faith and the Future

April 30 – 7:00-8:00 PM Super Youth Group

April 30 – Faith Paper Due!

May 7, 2023 – Confirmation Sunday!

What is a Confirmation Mentor at Our Savior's?

A faith Mentor is an adult that you look up to at Our Saviors. It needs to be someone over the age of 21, and someone that is an active participant at Our Saviors in worship – someone you will see regularly when you are at church, and someone that will take time to regularly check in with you.

What are the duties of the Faith Mentor?

The faith mentor needs to meet intentionally monthly with the student. These intentional conversations will be guided by a conversation guide prepared by the Pastors. The approximate time needed to complete each of the assignments is 45 minutes to an hour. These assignments can be completed any time that works for the mentor and mentee (though we suggest meeting at church, at the schedule we've assigned. Above all, please meet in a public place (libraries or coffee shops are also good places to meet.)

The faith mentor should also take time to regularly check in with the student. This could take many different forms, and the direction you take is up to you! Ideas for checking in are: writing a note and sending in the mail, sending a text to check in, sitting together at worship, chatting with them during coffee hour, or even intentionally reaching out to them when you see them in the community – like at a football game.

At the end of the confirmation experience, the faith mentor will play an important role as they are invited to the confirmation celebration event and will be invited to be part of the laying on of hands on the student's confirmation day (the first Sunday in May – this year, May 7, 2023!)

Thank you for considering the opportunity to be a role model for a confirmation student at Our Savior's! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask one of the Pastors!