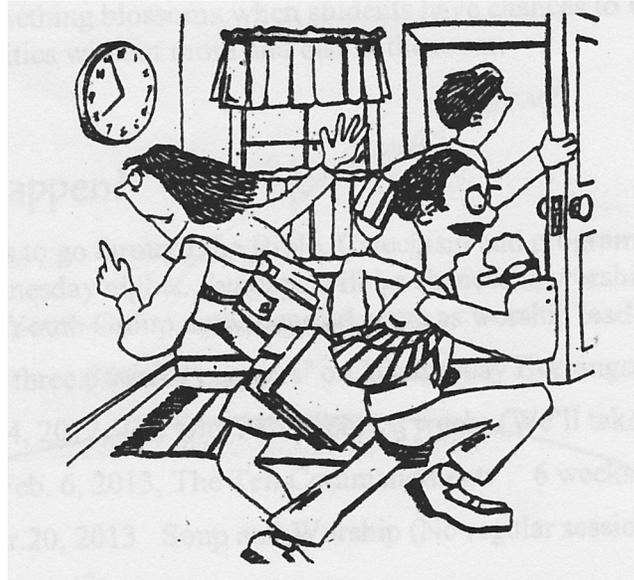


Confirmation for Parents and Students 2016-2017

Our Savior's Lutheran Church



*My only question is this,
during what "free time" are we going to start this confirmation stuff?*

Why do we have to do this anyway?

Confirmation is a significant investment of time and energy for students, parents, church staff and pastors. There must be something important here for us to share together!

Confirmation:

- Honors the promises made by parents and sponsors on the occasion of baptism,
- Helps young people feel attached to a community,
- Nurtures faith and deepens understanding of the way Lutherans live out the Christian faith,
- Becomes a place for fun, honest conversation, service and new friendships.
- Provides for a shared experience for both parents and students.

Who will be there?

Confirmation is for Middle School students and their parents. Kids begin the program in the Fall of the 6th Grade year. Most students are done in October of their 8th Grade year.

Some of the quarters are arranged to include both parents and students. Families learn together the Scriptures, catechism and fascinating features of the Christian faith. Other quarters are designed for just the kids and their small group leaders.

We're finding that students and parents learn from each other and have important conversations about God, sex, death, hope, relationships, prayer, the Earth, science, other religions etc. often on the way home from sessions.

We're also finding that kids need time away from moms and dads in order to form new friendships with others at church. Something blossoms when students have chances to be independent and navigate the new opportunities without mom and dad in the room.

When will all this happen?

It takes two school years to go through the Bible, Catechism and program expectations. Sessions for learning run on Sunday mornings.

The year is divided into four "quarters" on Sunday mornings:

Fall: September 25 – October 23
Old Testament
(students & parents)

Winter: January 8 – February 19
The Ten Commandments
(students only)

Lent: March 5 – April 2
"Understanding Our Neighbor's Faith"
(students & parents)

Spring: April 23 – May 21
Apostle's Creed
(students only)

What time?

Sunday mornings are planned to have activities and studies for all ages. Worship is at 9am and 11am. The Learning Hour is for Everyone from infants through 100+ in age. There are “quarters” designed to allow for breaks and for Confirmation youth to participate in the youth group on Sunday’s too.

Sunday Mornings	9:00 am	Worship
	10:00 am	Confirmation class in the Fellowship Hall Youth Group in the Fireside Room
	10:55 am	Dismissal
	11:00 am	Worship

What will I need to bring?

You will need to bring these items with you to confirmation each Sunday morning:

- Mom and Dad!
- Bible
- Catechism
- Pen/pencil
- Casual dress

If you need any of the above let us know. You will need all of the above each time we meet. You will also want to hold onto all your notes, exams, and session papers for all two years. These will be important when it comes time to write your own Credo Statement and build your Credo Project for your Affirmation of Baptism.

What are the expectations?

The Pastor, the Children, Youth and Family Director and the Small Group Leaders have all committed to attending Sunday mornings. We are asking kids and their families to make the same commitment. We start in the Fall of the 6th Grade year and finish in the Fall of the 8th Grade year.

Participation in Worship

- Worship as a family
- “Preaching Notes” twice each month
- Serve as a worship leader once each month
- Community service; 2 hours each quarter

Catechism and Bible

- Bring both of them each week
- Reading
- Memorization... yes, parents too!

A Learning Review and “Assessment”

At the end of each quarter, there will be a review of the material covered and an opportunity for recitation of memorized work. We plan written tests to help families see what has been discovered during the session.

What happens if I have to miss a session?

What about special days in the Church Year?

- **Confirmation Sunday/Reformation**, Sunday, October 30, 2016
- **Christmas Eve**, Saturday, December 24, 2016
- **Ash Wednesday**, March 1, 2017
- **Palm Sunday**, April 9, 2017
- **Maundy Thursday Seder and Holy Communion**, Thursday, April 13, 2017
- **Good Friday**, Friday, April 14, 2017
- **Easter Sunday**, Sunday, April 16, 2017

What else should I anticipate?

- Lutherwood Retreat Friday-Saturday, Sept. 30 – October 1, 2016
- Fall Credo Project Building in September/October of the year you are ready to be confirmed
- Confirmation Celebration for those completing two years (dinner/breakfast/brunch)
- Confirmation Summer Camp or Service Project

"Confirmation is the first occasion on which Lutheran young people are allowed to drink coffee."

-Garrison Keillor



"My Dad just told me the facts of life, and I can't believe you'd create such a weird system."