

August 2022

Greetings confirmation youth and families,

It is that time of year! Time to think about confirmation. Confirmation class (and confirmation) is an important step in the faith development of your son/daughter. Confirmation is building on a foundation that began at baptism and will continue for the rest of their lives. We would love it if you could plan on attending the parent/student information night at church **Wednesday, September 14th that will take place immediately following worship. We will begin in worship, and then be dismissed into the Fellowship Hall** for the remainder of the meeting.

If you are a parent of a 9th grade confirmation student, Confirmation will take place for them on **Sunday, October 30th at 10:45 a.m. All 9th grade students will receive a separate email with details on their requirements.**

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Confirmation/Confirmation class?

Confirmation class is a three year ministry program (typically grades 6-8 here, confirming in fall of 9th grade) that provides instruction on the Christian faith; at the end of the three year program, a student can choose whether or not to confirm his/her faith. The promises that were made in baptism, often as an infant, are now owned and lived out in the life of the young person being confirmed. It is important not to think of confirmation as a graduation, but a choice to own one's faith and live it out as an adult member in the church.

What will my youth experience during the confirmation time?

In a typical year, each Wednesday at 5:15 youth and/or families are invited to our community meal time in the fellowship hall. The recommended donation is \$5 per person or \$20 per family. If you'd like to pay for a larger bunch of meals at a time, information on that will be available on the information night. Then at 6:00 PM we will begin with a 30 minute worship service. At the end of the worship service, church school and confirmation students will be dismissed to class. Parents are invited to stay in the sanctuary with Pastor Sue for an adult learning time (working through ANIMATE video bible study). It is our plan to have confirmation classes in the Cornerstone, as we had prior to COVID, and to only offer in person options, unless COVID forces us to go entirely online. Offering both online/and in person options proved very difficult for our technology last year, so this seems like our best option.

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How much does confirmation cost?

Both retreats (9th grade and 6th-8th grade) will be held at Camp Onomia. Everything else is covered. The cost for the retreat is \$120 per person for the 6th-8th grade retreat and \$90 for the 9th grade retreat. We are asking families to pay ½ of that cost. Checks can be made out to Long Lake Lutheran Church. We don't want anyone to miss out on the retreat because of money. Scholarships will be available upon request. If you are able to help provide scholarship that is also a great help. I'm asking no one to register for these retreats until we know for sure they are happening! Since this is an ever changing landscape, we will watch carefully and keep you informed, and send out information closer to the retreat dates. If you would like to make a donation to help defray other costs in confirmation (books, activities etc.) we will accept them, although they aren't required.

What are the requirements?

We will have full details on this at the parent/youth meeting.

Because this is a time of instruction, we ask that you would commit to:

- Worship twice a month, sponsor one Wednesday evening (serve a meal and do set-up and take down), and sign up to help with one event as a family (Sign-ups will be available at the meeting)
- Serve others at least 15 hours per year (this can be inside and outside of the church)
- Acolyte at least twice (this can count towards your 15 service hours)
- Attend and participate weekly in your Wednesday small group
- Participate in the Confirmation retreat
- Complete 15 sermon notes per year

If you have questions about any of the information listed please feel free to give me a call or e-mail. Looking forward to seeing you all on September 15th! ***Please also plan on joining us on Rally Sunday (September 11th) for a special blessing of backpacks and devices for the school year!*** We are encouraging all students to bring their backpacks, or electronic devices on this Sunday so we can bless all students, teachers and their backpacks as we head into another school year. This will happen at our 9 a.m. service. Every student will receive a special gift too.

God's blessings,

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