

Calvary Lutheran Church Confirmation



2023-2024
Parent/Student
Handbook & Calendar

What is confirmation?

The worship service at the end of your confirmation study is called the *Service of Affirmation of Baptism* in which you will have an opportunity to tell the people around you what you believe; you affirm (or say yes) to your baptism and all it means. You will hear the promises given to you when you were baptized, and you will get to say, “Yes, I believe those promises belong to me!” We put our Confirmation Ministry together to help you understand what you will be saying “yes” about.

Why do we do confirmation anyway?

Five hundred years ago Martin Luther took a trip to the peasant country to find out how the church was doing. He was not pleased with what he saw. People did not understand the basics of their faith and so Martin Luther decided to do something about it. He wrote the *Small Catechism* so parents could teach their children about faith and learn something themselves along the way.

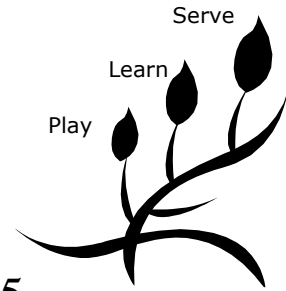
All these years later, here you are on the receiving end of the *Small Catechism*, and we are still helping young people learn about their faith and strengthen their ties to the Church. We are *not* doing it just because we have always done it. We do confirmation because God commands us to (Deuteronomy 11:19).

We live in a crazy world that is full of hard choices. We are surrounded by demanding voices. Confirmation is a good idea because at confirmation you hear about the biggest choice of all: what God says about you in your baptism. “Yes! You are Mine and I will never let you go!” That is a good thing to know and something you can depend on, too! (*Calvary Lutheran Education Committee*)

The Program

“I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit. But you cannot do anything without me.”

-John 15:5



Calvary Confirmation blends fellowship with a “back to basics” approach to Christian education. Kids have fun, form friendships, and learn at the same time. Learning is accomplished in a small group setting.

First Branch – LEARNING COMPONENTS

Opening: Set the “pace”. Build a mood of joy, get teens into teaching space on time and do some fun preview/review of key teaching points.

Presentation (Large Group): Provide the “punch”. Teach the content using multiple teaching methods.

Small Group: Provide the “personal care” which only small groups can do. The objective is to bond the group and process the lesson.

Second Branch – MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities to experience joy, value and meaning through service with a group of friends.

Third Branch – FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

Planned events that build identity, trust, care and healthy relationships between young people and adults.

Learning, service, and fellowship become the three branches for the faith journey.

Life in a Small Group

Purpose: What is the Confirmation Ministry Small Groups all about anyway? It is about getting to know each other, getting to know our Lord, and getting to know His Church.

Who: Who are the small groups for?

For you, the student, that is who. That is how God works. He wants His gifts to be for you. The small groups are for you, for your friends, for anyone who needs a place to belong, to share and care for one another.

Visitors: Does this mean I can invite my friends who do not belong to Calvary?

Sure. That would be a good way to put your faith to work in the real world. All we ask is that you help visitors in your group understand and live by the Ground Rules.

Study: What are we going to study in our small groups?

You...Your world...Your God. We will work to understand them all a little bit better by studying Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* and the Bible.

Agenda: What do you do in the group meetings?

You will gather in a large group for announcements and the lesson presentation. Following large group, you will break out into your small group which has these parts:

- Check-in: find out how everyone is doing
- Scratch the surface: take a first look at the topic for the night
- Dig deeper: use the Bible and Catechism to understand the night's topic better

- Take it home: talk about what it all means for your life in the real world
- Take it to God: pray about things that concern you, thank God for things you are happy about, tell Him what you need

Guides: Who lead our small group?

Each small group will have adult guides to help in leading the discussions.

Ground Rules for Small Groups

- Priority** While you are a member of a small group, you give group meetings priority.
- Participation** Everyone participates in the small groups, but no one dominates.
- Respect** Everyone is given the right to their own opinion, and “dumb questions” are encouraged and respected. Everyone treats others as lovable, valuable, and capable children of God.
- Confidentiality** Any personal information that is shared in the meeting is never repeated outside the meeting.
- Support** Permission is given to call upon each other (Especially your Guide) in time of need, even in the middle of the night.

MY SMALL GROUP

NAME

PHONE

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Confirmation Worship Notes

Purpose

Why do we have to take Worship Notes? There is no secret here. The reason for Worship Notes is that Christians go to church. Worship notes keeps you engaged and helps you remember what you are learning during worship. If you are going to have a living faith, there is no way you can do it without hearing God's Word in worship. The two go together like peanut butter and jelly, and green eggs and ham. Requiring Worship Notes of you makes sure you and your family hear God's promises about you.

How

What do you do with Worship Notes? If you have never done Worship Notes before, it is as simple as anything. All you must do is fill in the blanks on one side about worship. Then listen to the sermon. Write down anything important that you hear, using the directions on the form.

Where

Where do I get a blank Worship Notes? At the back on the usher table, you will find the forms. Put completed notes in the container provided on the same table.

How Many

What is the basic expectation? We encourage you to complete 10 Worship Notes by the end of February. Remember that there are many different worship services from September - March.

CONFIRMATION LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastor Randy Fett 605-342-9043

7th Grade Guides:

Kari Hendrickson 605-391-2899
Tammy Jones 605-415-8512
Joey Younie 605-321-9113
Jason Mitchell 971-998-0220

8th Grade Guides:

Amy Nelson 360-420-1371
Tricia Hauf 605-484-5252
David Bender 605-393-7034
Amber Sauvage 605-415-2516
Sara Odden 606-280-6577
Micaela Rice 605-484-4981
Lori Watson 605-381-5159
Kellie Meissner 605-430-9684

Worship Ushering

Part of the confirmation covenant expectations for students is to help with two worship services during the year. A schedule will be provided to all guides at the beginning of the education year. Students will help with the following: ushering, collecting offering, serving communion, and helping in the kitchen.

Confirmation 2022-23

7th & 8th Grades

Wednesday 6:30pm – 8:15pm

(Attendance at 6:30 Worship is Highly Expected)

***All confirmation groups please help with Easter Stations**

SEPT 6	Teacher's Training 6:15-6:45
SEPT 13	Martin Luther and the Ref.
SEPT 20	Exploring the 10 Comm. Part 1
SEPT 27	Exploring the 10 Comm. Part 2
OCT 4	Exploring the Comm. Part 4
OCT 11	The Sacrament of Communion
OCT 18*	Take and Eat
OCT 25	
NOV 1	Apostles Creed Art. 1
NOV 8	Apostles Creed Art. 2
NOV 15*	<i>Apostles Creed Art. 3</i>
NOV 22	
NOV 29	The Sacrament of Baptism
DEC 6	<i>Word with Water</i>
DEC 13	Christmas Party
DEC 20	
DEC 27	
JAN 3	The Lord's Prayer
JAN 10	The Lord's Prayer (God Gives and Forgives)
JAN 17	The Lord's Prayer (Temptation, Trial and Deliverance)
JAN 24*	Law and Gospel/ Sinner and Saint
JAN 31	Connecting with God thr. Prayer
FEB 7	Serving Others through Vocation
FEB 14* ASH WED	Loving Your Neighbor
FEB 21	<i>Sharing Your Faith</i>
FEB 28	<i>Forgiveness</i>
MAR 6	7 th Faith Project/8 th Statement
MAR 13*	7 th Faith Project/8 th Statement
MAR 20	Stations of the Cross/ End of the Year Party

The confirmation program is a blend of fellowship with a "back to basics" approach to Christian education. Kids have fun, form friendships, and learn at the same time. Learning, service, and fellowship are the three branches for the faith journey. Learning nights are pastor-led large-group instruction followed by small-group discussion.

Special Events:

8th GRADERS & PARENTS MEET
7:15pm January 24, 2024

9th GRADE BANQUET
Photos & Rehearsal
Saturday, Oct 28, 2023
Calvary Lutheran Church

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY (9th graders)
Sunday, October 29
Time: 9:30
Calvary Lutheran Church

7th GRADE MILESTONE
September 27

8th GRADE BANQUET
Photos & Rehearsal
Saturday, April 20, 2024
Calvary Lutheran Church

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY (8th graders)
Sunday April 21, 2023
Time: 9:30
Calvary Lutheran Church