

2009-2010


HANDBOOK



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
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To all Confirmation families;

Thank you and welcome! Confirmation is a major component of the Youth Ministry Program at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. It is a four-year program, beginning in 5th grade and completed in the spring of 8th grade. The goal of the program is to allow young Christian people the privilege of getting better acquainted with Jesus Christ and his teachings. Our intention is to do this in a setting that will not only challenge their minds and hearts, but also surround them with pastors, adult leaders and fellow students who can help them continue to live their Christian lives in earnest.

The decision to participate affects not only the student involved, but the entire family as well. Please carefully and prayerfully examine the expectations listed throughout the handbook. Discuss as a family whether you are willing to make this kind of commitment. Please know that we place a high value on our confirmation program and are very serious about the guidelines contained within the program.

*Confirmation is a voluntary program. It is not a sacrament in the Lutheran church and is simply available for those who wish to learn more about their faith and their church. What is essential is that **students and families get involved!** We encourage our students to participate in discussions, think, ask questions, share ideas, and pray. It is also **essential that parents are involved in their child(s) confirmation experience.***

A hundred years from now it will not matter what your bank account was, the sort of house you lived in, or the kind of car you drove....but the world may be different because you were important in the life of a child!

Blessings,
Pastor Brian, Pastor Maria, Pastor Dan
Jodi Blowers, Director of Confirmation

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Program Overview

Objective: Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Confirmation Ministry strives to guide our young people to the **TRUTH**-Jesus Christ.

Teach God's Word

Reach out to others

Understand Lutheran traditions

Trusting and safe place

Help and encourage each other

Weekly Wednesday Power UP worship attendance is expected of all students who wish to become a CONFIRMED member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

Wednesday Nights Confirmation

Includes Worship AND an Education Hour

Education Hour:

Session 1 (5:00-6:00 p.m.) or Session 2 (7:15-8:15 p.m.)

Our Education Hour includes a high-energy large group time and a small group discussion time. Teams of youth and adults participate in the large group through skits, games, and video clips - diving into the "Big Idea" bible topic. Following large group, youth will 'break-out' into a small group discussion time to share their "bummers & blessings" of the week, prayer, and talk about the Big Idea bible topic. Every youth in Confirmation is part of a small group. These groups are led by an adult guide(s) and/or Jr. guide(s). Small groups give youth the opportunity to share and grow in faith, allowing them to get to know each other on a deeper level and gives youth another adult faith mentor (their guide).

Power UP Worship:

6:30-7:10 p.m. for both Session 1 and 2

We all come together and get Plugged IN to God's Word during the Power UP Worship. All Confirmation students are required to attend worship no matter what Education Hour they are in. Holy Communion will be celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month and an offering will be collected each week.

Service Nights:

Experience joy and bonding through participation in God's care for the world.

We each learn to be a servant by serving. Time is set aside for small groups to participate in service events that move faith into action. Everything Jesus did could be described as a servant event. If we are disciples of Jesus, can we do any less?

Fellowship Nights:

Fun, friends, and fabulous relationships.

Developing deep and permanent friendships among our youth is an essential part of growing healthy Christians. We have two Fellowship nights that offer time to bond the group, have fun, and build trust. Young people need down time to unwind, be together and grow as a group. It's possible that the book of Acts wouldn't have ended the way it did if Jesus hadn't gone fishing every now and then with his friends!

The Market Place:

Enjoy a meal out with your friends on Wednesdays. Meal tickets are available for purchase at the Reception Desk.

Expectations for Our Students

Come prepared to learn and be ready to share in discussion. Respect God, people, and property. When a family enrolls in Confirmation, there are responsibilities and expectations to be considered. Expectations have been set to preserve the integrity of this ministry of faith formation, the sharing of God's Word and Sacraments, and the building of Christian relationships. The expectations and responsibilities have the purpose of contributing to the experiences that lead up to completion of the ministry. As always, special arrangements can be made for special needs, and we are more than willing to work with those circumstances.

Items to Bring:

Bible, small catechism, pencil, and a great attitude!

Curriculum:

"Here We Stand" curriculum provides instruction and support for families to grow relationships during that crazy time known as adolescence. Learner take home sheets will be brought home after each Wednesday night. These sheets help strengthen communication and faith-building in the home by providing devotions, reconciliation, prayer and blessings. This year we will work in the Old Testament.

Memory Work:

Memory work comes in the form of “Trading Cards”. This is an excellent opportunity to spend time with your youth, learning and memorizing God’s important words. Trading Card information is posted on the Youth Board and the website.

Shape Your Thoughts (S.Y.T.):

Confirmation worship notes *S.Y.T.*’s will be completed Wednesday nights during the Power UP worship. These worship notes are a way for Confirmands to learn about how worship works through a variety of means. *S.Y.T.*’s are also available at the Youth Board for students to complete at Sunday worships or whenever a student worships offsite.

You Are Great Confirmation Service Notes:

Confirmation service notes “You Are Great” will be turned in whenever a student completes a Service project.

Students can put their completed *S.Y.T.*’s and “*You are Great*” slips in a collection basket during Wednesday night large group for a prize drawing.

Attendance

Students are responsible for their own attendance. Attendance is tracked each week from the information (tear off) section of the Plugged IN bulletin. A student will be counted absent if they have not filled out and turned in a Plugged IN bulletin during the weekly offering.

- ❖ If a student misses 3 events, the family will be contacted by the small group guide.
- ❖ If a student misses 5 events, the family will be contacted by a pastor or confirmation team member to discuss a contingency plan.
- ❖ Please let your child’s Guide know **in advance** if he/she will be absent and why.

Parking Lot Rules

Please meet your child inside the building at 7:15 p.m. (Session 1) or 8:15 p.m. (Session 2). Skateboards are not allowed on the sidewalk or inside the building. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children safe.

Photo Release

Photo release information is on each confirmation enrollment form. Your child may be photographed while participating in events at O.S.L.C. These images might be used in photo displays, printed and on-line publications. Children will not be identified by name. Please indicate any objections on the enrollment form.

Taste of Confirmation

Incoming 4th graders will have the opportunity to experience our large group confirmation “Theme Event” on Wed., Feb.10, 2010. Please come and enjoy a meal at “The Market Place”.

Risk Management Training

Anyone working with youth and/or vulnerable adults must complete a training session and background check. These are scheduled with the Confirmation Director, Children’s Ministry Director, and/or the Youth Director.

Notes for 8th Grade Students

- 1) 8th grade Retreat is Jan. 29-30, 2010.
- 2) Sash making is Saturday, Jan. 30, 2010, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon.
- 3) Confirmation Picture & Practice is Saturday, April 10, 2010
9:00 a.m.-12 noon.
- 4) The Rite of Confirmation-Affirmation of Baptism Service is
Saturday, April 17, 2010 at Our Saviour's.

Additional information is available at the Reception Desk or the
website: www.oursaviourslc.org.

*Sign Language Practice

*Nursery

*J.A.M. - Multi-age Education Hour

*Music opportunities

*First Communion Classes

*Senior High Bible Study

2009-2010 Calendar

2009-10 Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Confirmation Program
Grades 5th -8th
Education Hour Session 1: 5:00-6:00 (includes Power UP Worship 6:30-7:10)
Education Hour Session 2: 7:15-8:15 (includes Power UP Worship 6:30-7:10)

Sept:

9th All Program enrollment/orientation 5th-8th graders & parents 6:30 p.m.
 13th Back to School Blessing 8:00, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.
 16th All Program Leader Training (required for new **and** returning guides) 6:30 p.m.
 18-19th Extreme Caffeine Leader training event at Camp Wapo 6 p.m.-6 p.m.
 23rd Confirmation/Communion-Nigerian Partnership Kickoff w/P. Buntausa
 30th Confirmation

Oct:

4th CAT meeting 10:15-10:45 a.m. RM 115
 7th Confirmation/**Guide Huddle**
 9-11th Camp Shamineau Fall Fling Retreat 6th-12th graders
 14th NO CONFIRMATION/YES-Power UP Worship & Communion
 21st Confirmation/Service Night/**Altar Offering**
 24th Trunk n Treat and Pumpkin Patch 3:30-5:00 p.m.
 25th Pumpkin Patch 8:00, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.
 25th 8th Grade: Serve Hospitality 8:00, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.
 28th Confirmation/Communion

Nov:

1st CAT meeting 10:15-10:45 a.m. RM 115
 4th Confirmation/**Guide Huddle**
 6-7th True Beauty Retreat 7 p.m. Fri-12 noon Sat
 11th Confirmation/Communion
 15th 7th Grade: Serve Hospitality 8:00, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.
 18th Confirmation/ **Altar Offering-All Youth Worship/DOUBLE UP NIGHT**
 22nd All Youth Sunday
 21st "Survive the Box"-Homeless Awareness Event
 25th NO CONFIRMATION

Dec:

2nd Confirmation/**NO Guide Huddle**
 6th CAT meeting 10:15-10:45 a.m. RM 115
 9th Confirmation-**Guest Speakers**/Communion
 16th Confirmation-Holiday Dazzle Fellowship Night/**Altar Offering**
 23rd NO CONFIRMATION
 30th NO CONFIRMATION

Jan:

6th Confirmation/**Guide Huddle**
 13th Confirmation/Communion
 15-17th Camp Shamineau Retreat
 20th Confirmation/Service Night/**Altar Offering**
 27th Confirmation/Communion
 29-30th 8th grade Retreat 7 p.m. Fri.-12 noon Sat.
 31st 6th Grade: Serve Hospitality 8:00, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.

Feb:

3rd Confirmation/**Guide Huddle**
6th Guys only Retreat (Times/location TBA)
7th CAT meeting 10:15-10:45 a.m. RM 115
10th Confirmation/Communion-TASTE OF CONFIRMATION 4th GRADE
17th NO CONFIRMATION-Ash Wednesday
20th Mystery Bus Ride
21st 5th Grade: Serve Hospitality 8:00, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.
24th Confirmation/Communion

Mar:

3rd Confirmation/**Guide Huddle-Last one**
7th CAT meeting 10:15-10:45 a.m. RM 115
10th Confirmation/Communion
17th Confirmation/**Guest Speaker/DOUBLE UP NIGHT/Altar Offering**
24th Confirmation/Communion
31st NO CONFIRMATION-Holy Week

Apr:

7th Confirmation
10th 8th grade Picture and Practice 9 a.m.-12 noon
14th Confirmation Fellowship Night/**All Youth Worship/Communion**
17th Affirmation of Baptism 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m.
18th All Youth Sunday Worship Services 8, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if we have a snowstorm or school is closed?

In case of questionable weather, please call the church office at (763) 434-6117 to verify if there will be class. We will make the decision to cancel Confirmation by 12:00 noon. If the church has to close the office before 12:00 noon, instructions will be left on voicemail. It will be the Guide's responsibility to call all of their students. We will make every effort to contact WCCO 830AM and the local schools for their afternoon announcements.

Will each student receive a new Bible and Small Catechisms?

We have Bibles available for anyone who needs one. We do not automatically give each person a Bible and Small Catechism unless it is requested. Donations of \$12-Bible/\$3-Small Catechism help cover the cost for those that can not afford one.

Bringing friends to confirmation:

For safety reasons, all guests must check in at the Reception desk and obtain a guest Nametag. It is helpful to know in advance if you plan on bringing a friend, we are ALWAYS excited to have guests visit! If a guest visits a second time they will need to fill out an enrollment form and will be placed in a class by the Confirmation Director. We try to maintain a small group of 5-6 students per class, when a friend visits and then enrolls they will be placed in a class with the fewest number of students and/or a new class may be formed with the visiting friend and the "sponsoring friend" together.

What can parents do during Confirmation?

When the youth go into their small groups, parents are invited to join other adults in the Gathering Space for a Bible Study. Adult Christian Education meets from 5:00-6:00 and/or 7:15-8:15 p.m.

Pastor Brian D. Fragodt - Pastor Maria Pederson - Pastor Dan Nordin

www.oursaviourslc.org

Fall/Winter Worship Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Traditional, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. Contemporary

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Power UP

Office hours:

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday: 7:30 a.m.-12:00 noon