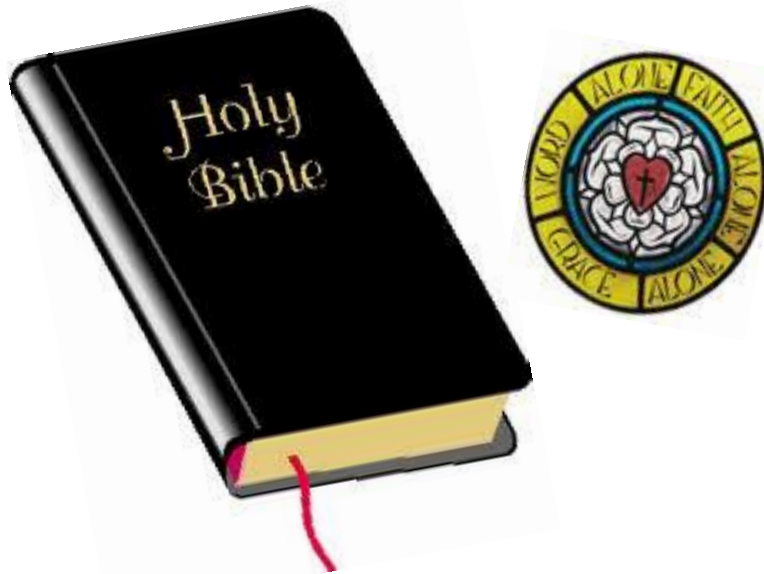


First Lutheran Church

Confirmation Handbook



2018-19 School Year

Why Confirmation?

When your child was baptized you made a promise to help them grow in the Christian faith and life by bringing them to worship, teaching them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the 10 Commandments, and nurturing them in faith and prayer. Now that they are older, your children will begin the process of affirming the baptismal vows made for them by learning more about their faith. Throughout the three years of confirmation your child will learn more about the Old and New Testament as well as receive instruction from Luther's Catechism. Confirmation is your child's affirmation of their baptismal vows.

What is the parent's role in confirmation?

As a parent, you play an important role in your child's faith formation. You should attend worship on a regular basis **with** your child, bring them to confirmation class each week, encourage them in their learning by asking questions about what they are learning in class, and model Christ in your daily life.

What is the church's role in confirmation?

First Lutheran Church is strongly committed to Christian education. The teachers who work with your child each week plan and prepare their lessons carefully. They will care for you and your child and give you the tools you need to nurture their faith formation.

Class Expectations

Students are expected to attend class regularly and complete any assigned homework, be present with their family in worship, complete the required amount of worship notes and service points, and attend one retreat experience during the school year. During Lent, attendance at Wednesday worship services is expected, along with 4 worship notes, in addition to the total for the year. 6th-7th grade meets in the fellowship hall, 8th grade in room 203, and 9th grade in the Fireside room.

Adult Fellowship

Parents who are interested in socializing and getting to know other confirmation parents, or are looking for a place to read or work, are invited to use the first floor lounge.

Worship Notes & Service Points

Students in 8th and 9th grade will continue to choose their service experiences based on their interest areas.

Students in 6th-7th grade will explore many aspects of serving as they meet members of First Lutheran and learn about the many opportunities for service within the church community, as well as in the community outside the church. All students will complete 12 service points and 12 worship notes over the course of the year.

Service areas include: deacon, usher, altar guild, reader, AV team, special music, assist in Sunday School or nursery, member of a choir, Cardboard City, Family Service Days, art work for bulletin, meal for Hope House, make communion bread, clean-up quiet bags, and much more! Each hour of service equals ½ point.

For other ideas, please talk to your teacher and get approval before doing the project. A service sheet (on bulletin board in Fireside) will need to be filled out and signed by the person supervising each project. Sheets can then be turned in to the same place as worship notes.

Youth and Family Website

Looking for more information? Need another permission form? Want to see some pictures of your child at a youth event? Find all this and more at the First Lutheran Youth and Family website. Check it out at www.firstlutheranyouthandfamily.weebly.com

Retreat Experiences

Retreat experiences are an important part of faith formation and developing friendships within the group. Students have the following options for their retreat experience this year (options listed in order of church's preference):

6th-8th grade: 1) Junior High Blast at Imago Dei Village, November 2-4 **OR**

2) Junior Youth Gathering (Synod event), February 16-17 (location TBA)

9th grade: 1) Senior Youth Gathering (Synod Event), November 9-11, **OR** 2) Church retreat at Imago Dei Village, January 18-20

The cost to each family for these retreats will be approximately \$50-\$75 while confirmation fees and church budget pays the remainder. If your family is in financial need, please check with Stephanie or Pastor Harswick for available campership money.

Ignite and Fusion Youth Groups

Students in grades 6-9 are part of the junior high youth group, called **Ignite**. 9th graders will also be included in fellowship events and activities with the 10th-12th graders in **Fusion**. Below is a list of the first semester events for each group.

Ignite (grades 6-9)

September 14	Game Night	6:30-8:30
October 13-14	Cardboard City	4 pm-9 am
November 2-4	Junior High Blast	
December 2	Christmas caroling	3:30-??

Fusion (grades 9-12)

October 13-14	Cardboard City	4 pm- 9 am
November 9-11	SYG	
December 2	Christmas caroling	3:30-??

Other Important Dates

September 9	God's Work Our Hands	10-12:30
November 29	Cookie decorating	7:45-8:30
December 2	Cookie Walk	9-11am

Life Hacks at First

Life hacks are things that make life easier. For example, ice cubes in the dryer gets out wrinkles. First Lutheran is going to help with some even more important life hacks this year! We will host two informational nights to deal with topics of concern to many parents and students. The first of these nights will be November 28th and the topic will be Depression and Anxiety in Children. First Lutheran member and professional counselor, Wendy Hutterer, will be our speaker that evening. Parents are encouraged to attend and to invite friends and family as well. The evening will start with supper at 6:15 followed by the program at 6:50. Child care will be available.

Confirmation Camp

All 6th-7th graders are expected to attend a week long confirmation camp at Imago Dei Village. Our camp dates for this year are tentatively June 16-21, but you will be notified when that is definite. **Please make every effort to plan vacations and other activities accordingly.**

Sunday Morning Fellowship

Each 6th-8th grade family is expected to help out with our Sunday morning donut or cinnamon roll sales several times throughout the school year. This is done not only as a service to the congregation, but also as a fundraiser to help pay for confirmation camp. Students do NOT earn service points for helping with this as it is a fundraiser for camp.

Class Schedule **

September 12- Classes begin, 6:50-7:45
September 19
September 26
October 3
October 10
October 17- (Lutheran World Relief packing night)
October 24
November 7
November 14
November 21- NO CLASS
November 28- Life Hacks at First
December 5
December 12
December 19- NO CLASS
December 26- NO CLASS
January 2
January 9
January 16
January 23
January 30
February 6
February 13
February 21- Lent; worship 6, class 6:45-7:30
February 28- Lent; worship 6, class 6:45-7:30
March 6- Ash Wednesday; worship 6, NO CLASS
March 13- Lent; worship 6, class 6:45-7:30
March 20- Lent; worship 6, class 6:45-7:30
March 27- Lent; worship 6, class 6:45-7:30
April 3- Lent; worship 6, class 6:45-7:30
April 10- Lent; worship 6, class 6:45-7:30
April 17- NO CLASS
April 24- Classes resume regular time 6:50-7:45

May 1

May 5- Confirmation Sunday

May 8- 6th-8th only

May 15- 6th-8th only

May 22- 6th-7th grade camp meeting (no 8th grade class)

Confirmation Teachers

Stephanie Bowman and Jennifer Michaelson	7 th grade
Steve Gibson	8 th grade
Pastor Harswick and Karin Jaeger	9 th grade