



## What is Confirmation?

- Confirmation has been around in Lutheran Churches for a long time, but it is important for us to stop and think about what it is before we begin. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has said: *“Confirmation ministry is a pastoral and education ministry of the church which helps the baptized person through Word and Sacrament to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in its mission.”*
  
- What does that mean? It means that Confirmation is more than a class, it is more than a three year program – it is a ministry through which God is active in your life.
  - Confirmation will help you to feel more at home in the church and teach you ways to be active in the different ministries of the church. Regardless of how old we are, what God wants for us has not begun and will not end with Confirmation. By the grace of God, we continue – each and every day of our lives – to walk our journey of life with God.
  
  - Confirmation will teach you how your faith can be active in your daily life. It teaches you about the promises that God has made to you and how you can depend on those promises during your lives. We will learn about how trusting in God isn’t just something we hear about, but something we can do ourselves. At the end of the Confirmation program you will have a deeper, more personal and honest idea about what you believe and who God is. You will learn how to live out that faith in the church and the world.
  
  - Here is how we are going to do that.
    - We are going to study the Lord’s Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and Martin Luther’s explanations as found in the Small Catechism.
    - We are going to learn through our actions as well as through worship and doing acts of service for others.
    - You will have the chance to talk about what you are learning about your faith at home with your parents and at church with your pastor, teachers, and each other.
    - You are going to spend time enjoying the fellowship, friendship, and the joy of being part of a family of faith.
    - It is our goal that at the end of all these classes you will stand before the church and make a statement of faith that is meaningful for you.

## Notes and Expectations – (Please also see alterations to our normal schedule during this time, below)

- We will gather from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. most weeks, except during the season of Lent. (see Lenten schedule on Confirmation Calendar)
- Please provide a folder or 3 ring binder, highlighter, and a pen or pencil.
- We'll provide a Bible, handouts, "Here We Stand" book with Small Catechism included.
- Each student will be assigned to a small group, please communicate with your small group leader, as well as the pastor about attendance, questions, etc.
- If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, confirmation will also be cancelled.
- If your child will be absent from confirmation class please contact Pastor John or Brenda. A phone message, text, or email is fine. ELC Office: 437.5012 Pastor John [john.twiton@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:john.twiton@elcmthoreb.org) Cell: 608.886.0544; Brenda [brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org) Cell: 608.576.6012 Intern Tamara [tsiburg@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:tsiburg@elcmthoreb.org) Cell: 360.731.2937

### ● **Worship Notes**

- Part of the promise made at confirmation is to become more deeply involved with the community of faith. Worship is a big part of what we do. Confirmation students are expected to worship regularly.
- Completion of 15 worship notes is expected each year, 11 on Sundays and 4 during Lenten worship. Worship note sheets are available in the back of the sanctuary and chapel, and on our [elcmthoreb.org](http://elcmthoreb.org) website with the following link - [ELC Worship Notes](#).

### ● **Service Projects**

- Christian service is both a help to others and spurs growth in faith and community. We expect that each student will participate in service projects each year.
- These might include helping in the food pantry, clothes closet, nursery, or other sites. This can also be serving the congregation as an usher, reader, or other volunteer on Sunday morning. Small groups are also encouraged to seek out opportunities as well.
- Each confirmation student will sign up for up to 7 times to serve as an acolyte throughout the year. You are responsible to find your own replacement and inform the office of any changes. If there are open spots, students may be randomly assigned.

### ● **Behavioral Expectations**

- Arrive on time
- Turn off cell phones and other electronics.
- Be courteous and respectful to other students, guides, leaders
- Clean up after yourself
- Be respectful of church property and other person's property
- Stay with your group during class

- **Alterations for our Confirmation Schedule during COVID**

- These alternative plans will be in effect for the remainder of 2020. (longer if needed)
- Student's will watch our worship recordings on Facebook, YouTube or our ELC website.
- Student's need to complete 2 of their Worship Notes when Intern Tamara preaches.
- Worship notes must be emailed to [brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org) or mailed to ELC.
- Student's have a choice of how to participate: 1) weekly on ZOOM, 2) discussion with their families or 3) individual meeting times with Pastor John, Tamara and/or Brenda.
- Classtime will be on Wednesdays, 7 - 8 pm each week on ZOOM platform. Link will be emailed before Wednesday.
- Students will break out into groups during this time. Guides are still needed to build connections with the youth.
- Students will need to pick up their Bible and "Here We Stand" book at the Drive In service on Sept 20th, 10 am.
- Registration is online through Google Forms. Follow this link - [Registration for 7th - 8th Grade Confirmation](#)
- To help cover costs for confirmation curriculum and supplies, we are asking for a \$30 donation. Donations may be made on our website, ELCMTHOREB.ORG or mailed to ELC, 315 E Main St., Mt Horeb, WI 53572.