



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 Apostles’ Creed, the Sacraments, 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.
- Confirmation is part of a lifelong journey of faith, filled with new questions and answers, new discoveries, new relationships, new responsibilities, and new possibilities. But know that confirmation is just one step along a much larger journey of your life. God is with you along the way, each step of the way. Confirmation is not the end, nor the beginning. Rather, Confirmation is a tool that helps you along your life-long adventure of living out your Christian faith
- We do expect each student to spend a week at confirmation camp with their group either after their 7th or 8th grade year. This week has typically been near the end of July. Watch for announcements when the schedule for next summer is posted.

Notes and Expectations –

- We will gather from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. most weeks, except during the season of Lent. (see Lenten schedule on Confirmation Calendar)
- Classes will be held in Fellowship Hall, in Hybrid form. A ZOOM option will be available. As of now, masks will be worn.
- 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, Intern Joseph, or Brenda. A phone message, text, or email is fine. ELC Office: 437.5012 Pastor John john.twiton@elcmthoreb.org Cell: 608.886.0544; Brenda brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org Cell: 608.576.6012 Intern Joseph jtiegen@elcmthoreb.org Cell: 417.838.9482

- **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 notes may be completed digitally by using this link : <https://forms.gle/SV6MsMyjojVtf82FA>. Worship note sheets are also available in the back of the sanctuary and chapel, and on our elcmthoreb.org website with the following link - <http://elcmthoreb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Worship-Notes.pdf>
 - Paper copies should be turned in, in the box at the back of the sanctuary or email them to brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org.

- **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. Hoping to begin in October.

- **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

Registration:

- o Registration is online through Google Forms. Follow this link - <https://forms.gle/cBeeZBssQz1sJz8S8>
- o Please submit \$30 for confirmation materials, payable on Sept 8th (checks written to ELC), on our website (<http://elcmthoreb.org>) or mailing donation to our church, 315 E Main St. Mt Horeb. (Please add \$1.00 for processing fees, if paying online.)