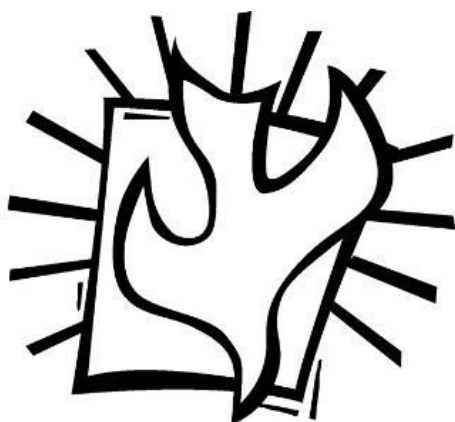


2017-2018

Confirmation
HANDBOOK



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
19001 Jackson Street NE
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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 three-year program, beginning in 6th grade and completed in the fall of 9th 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,
Senior Pastor Dan Nordin,
Pastor Maria Pederson,
Deacon Glenndy Ose &
Christina Verbick, Director of Youth & Confirmation Ministries

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Senior Pastor Dan Nordin - Pastor Maria Pederson – Deacon Glenny Ose

Christina Verbick email: cverbick@oursaviourslc.org

Church website: www.oursaviourslc.org

Fall/Winter Worship Schedule

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Traditional, 10:00 a.m. Contemporary

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. IGNITE!

Office hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Sunday: 7:30 a.m.-close

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 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 (5:30-6:30 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 more personal basis to foster faith growth.

IGNITE! Worship: 6:30-7:15 p.m. for both Session 1 and 2 Or Sunday Worship at 8:30 or 10:00 am

Our Wednesday night worship is awesome and specifically designed with youth in mind! At IGNITE! We will "let loose and let God IGNITE your life!" ***All Confirmation students and parents/guardians are expected to attend worship together*** on Wednesday or Sunday. Holy Communion will be celebrated **every** Wednesday & Sunday 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 you attend Confirmation on the nights we have a Service Event planned, you will receive ½ hours worth of service for doing so.

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.

Group Separated Fellowship Nights:

We have planned SPECIAL fellowship nights for each group throughout the year at the fire pit in our own backyard! Your child's guide will let you know when it will be your night to be outside. We will be doing this mainly in the fall and spring time, but as you know, Minnesota can be quite cold in November, so Dress accordingly on your night.

These special nights will take place during your child's large and small group time that they would already be here for.

There is NO COST for these fellowship nights.

Help Wanted

*Christina is looking for a couple of parents who would be willing to arrive by 5:00 pm to get the fire started and ready for the groups at 5:30 pm. You would keep it going all night until 8:15 pm. You would be responsible for putting it out and helping the groups finish cleaning up the area. This will happen on multiple Wednesday nights in the fall and spring. You could help with one or many nights. Let Christina know if you can help! ☺

Parent Night

We invite you to join your child and their group on **Wednesday, October 25** for large and small group. Have a chance to experience Confirmation and meet their guide and make connections.

Confirmation Nights during Lent:

The Lent schedule will remain the same as in past years. We continue to encourage more families to worship together as a family. We realize that overall this is asking youth to be here for an extra 15 minutes, however we feel that it is an important addition during the season of Lent.

- Session 1 – 5:30-6:15 Holden service with family
6:15-6:45 small groups w/ guides to discuss service
- Session 2 – 6:30-7:15 IGNITE! service with family
7:15-7:45 small groups w/ guides to discuss service

Expectations for Our Students & Parents

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.

It is important to note that while these are our expectations, they aren’t “requirements to pass” Confirmation. You don’t pass/fail Confirmation; you simply get out of your experience what you put into it. ***Confirmation is a stepping stone designed to help faith grow, not just something to accomplish.***

Items to Bring:

Bible, highlighter, pencil, and a great attitude!

What will we be learning about this year? :

Luther’s history/teachings & daily life questions

Communication is KEY:

Monthly E-NEWSletters are sent out reminding you of upcoming events and news. If you don’t receive them, please email Christina.



Text alerts: Sign up by texting @OSLCconf to the number 81010. You must reply with your full name in order to finish the process. Reference the link below for more details.

<http://oursavioursclc.org/confirmation/#text>

Our Focus:

Worship, Learn & Serve Together

1) Worship together

Weekly worship as a family is honoring the Sabbath, hearing the Word and celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Worshipping together is one of the foundations of our faith. These worship notes are a way for Confirmands to learn about how worship works through a variety of means. They will be turned in and read and commented on by the pastors/"wise elders" and given back to the youth to see their questions answered.

Confirmation students are expected to worship with their parent/guardian and thoughtfully complete 10 worship notes throughout the year (from Sept. 1, 2017-Aug. 31, 2018).

2) Learn together

Weekly growth in faith through fellowship, study and honoring the promise to place in our children's hands the scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian Faith.

Confirmation students are expected to attend 20 of the 27 Confirmation nights, which begin on September 20th

3) Serve together

Weekly growth is an active faith life in small groups, service and honoring the promise to our children to grow in service, care for one another and to work for justice. **10 hours of service per year in which at least 5 hours MUST be served inside** the church. Inside church ideas include: nursery helper, SS teacher/helper, JAM teacher/helper, communion server, usher, greeter, scripture reader, church service projects, etc. Fill out a "Serve Together" sheet completely and have it signed by the adult who was in charge of the activity.

Confirmation students are expected to complete at least 10 hours of service per year, in which 5 hours MUST be served inside the church (from Sept. 1, 2017-Aug. 31, 2018).

Parking Lot Rules

Please meet your child inside the building at 6:30 p.m. (Session 1- unless you are joining them for IGNITE!) 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.

Market Place Meal

Enjoy a meal out with your family and friends on Wednesday's right here at church in the Gathering Space from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Menu will be posted on the Children/Youth board.

The cost will be \$3/person. Punch cards will be available for purchase at the Market Place table at a cost of \$30 for 10 meals or \$15 for 5 meals.

Risk Management Training

Anyone working with youth and/or vulnerable adults must complete a training session and background check. These are scheduled with Christina Verbick, the Youth & Confirmation Director.

**Mandatory Confirmation Guide training is Wed, Sept. 6 @ 6:30pm. This will also be your first "Guide Huddle" where you will get the curriculum for the first 6 weeks of lessons.*

Notes for 8th Grade Students Attendance at ALL Events is required

- 1) Brief Faith Interview (15 mins) with one of the pastoral staff – sign up for a time slot on the youth board in fall 2018.
- 2) 9th grade Retreat is Friday, Oct. 5, 2018 @ 7 pm – Sat, Oct. 6 @ noon
- 3) Sash making with parents is on Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018 from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon.
- 4) Confirmation Picture & Practice is October TBD
- 5) The Rite of Confirmation-Affirmation of Baptism Service is Sunday, October 28, 2018 at Our Saviour's. (Youth will be separated into both morning services, which will be the same.)

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. We will make every effort to contact WCCO 830AM and the local schools for their afternoon announcements. We will also send out a text message and those who sign up for those alerts will receive the message.

Will each student receive a new Bible and Small Catechisms?

We have Bibles in the pews available for anyone who needs one. We have bibles ready to give to our visiting friends. Please stop by the Reception Desk on a Wednesday night and have your friend receive their new Bible!

You may choose to purchase a *Connect* Bible (NRSV) from us for \$15 each. We also have Small Catechisms available for \$3 each.

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 Christina Verbick, the Youth & 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 participate in one of the Adult Studies that take place during the same time. Please respect the privacy of the small groups by giving them their space. Parents can also be a Confirmation guide and mentor a small group of youth through their faith journey.

Confirmation Program Calendar 2017-2018: Luther's history/teachings & daily life

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Confirmation Program ~ Grades 6th -8th

Education Hour Session 1: 5:30-6:30

Wednesday IGNITE! Worship 6:30-7:15

Education Hour Session 2: 7:15-8:15

Sunday Worship Times: 8:30 am – Traditional/ 10:00 am – Contemporary

***Some, NOT ALL of the off-site fellowship events are listed on the calendar, watch your email & youth board for info on those events.**

Sept:

- 6 6:30 pm - Confirmation Leader Training (required for ALL guides. This is your **FIRST GUIDE HUDDLE** for the year)
- 13 **6:30 pm** - Confirmation Orientation for NEW parents (youth are invited but not required)
- 20 Confirmation
- 27 Confirmation

Oct:

- 4 Confirmation
Guide/Jam teacher installation @ IGNITE!
- Sun, 8 **8th Grade:** Serve Hospitality 9:00-noon
- 11 Confirmation
- 18 NO CONFIRMATION – MEA Weekend
- 25 Confirmation / *Parent Night*
- Sun, 29 Trunk n Treat 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Nov:

- 1 Confirmation
- 8 Confirmation / **SERVICE NIGHT**
- 15 Confirmation / **GUIDE HUDDLE**
- 22 **WORSHIP ONLY TONIGHT**
Christmas Basket auction
- Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ 6:30 w/ pie social after
- 29 Confirmation

Dec:

- 6 Confirmation - **SERVICE NIGHT Xmas Backpacks**
- 13 Confirmation-Christmas Party
- 20 NO CONFIRMATION – Christmas Break
- 27 NO CONFIRMATION – Christmas Break

Jan:

- 3 Confirmation
- Sun, 7 **7th Grade:** Serve Hospitality 9:00 – noon
- 10 Confirmation
- 17 Confirmation
- 19-20 Ultimate Lock-In with other area churches @ Maple Grove Community Center – for 6-8th grades

- 24 Confirmation
- 31 Confirmation / **GUIDE HUDDLE**

Feb:

- 7 Confirmation
- Sun, 11 **6th Grade:** Serve Hospitality 9:00 – noon

****CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE CHANGE DURING LENT****

Session 1 attends Holden Worship with family from 5:30-6:15, then small groups meet from 6:15-6:45 pm.
 Session 2 attends IGNITE! worship with family from 6:30-7:15, then small groups meet from 7:15-7:45 pm

Feb (cont'd):

- 14 WORSHIP ONLY TONIGHT
ASH WEDNESDAY Worship @ 6:30 p.m.
- 21 Confirmation – Worship/Small group
- 28 Confirmation – Worship/Small group

Mar:

- 7 Confirmation – Worship/Small group
- 14 Confirmation – Worship/Small group
- 21 Confirmation – Worship/Small group
- 28 **NO CONFIRMATION**-Holy Week
- Fri, 30 Confirmation Mystery Bus Ride

****RESUME REGULAR SCHEDULE****

Apr:

- 4 Confirmation
- 11 Confirmation
- 18 Confirmation /8th grade youth/parent **mandatory meeting** during child's **small group time about AOB in fall.**
- 25 Confirmation

May:

- 2 Confirmation / **FINAL GUIDE HUDDLE**
- 9 Confirmation - Last night party

-
- Summer 2018 Youth camp at Camp Wapo!
 - Summer 2018 Help with Vacation Bible School!
-

Calendar for 9th graders in Fall 2018

- Sun, Sept 16 Picnic Fellowship event @ noon with High School youth
- Fri, Oct. 5- Sat, Oct. 6 **REQUIRED** overnight retreat @ OSLC
- Oct TBD Picture & Practice
- Sunday, Oct. 28 AOB during both morning worships (youth will be separated between worships)