

Mount Cross Lutheran Church 2022-2023

Confirmation Handbook

First, a thank you to parents.

The presiding minister addresses the parents who have brought their child for baptism:

As you bring your children to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your children grow in the Christian faith and life? Response: I do.

Thank you for keeping your promise!

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Before the world was created, it was decided that you should become God's child in Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

Ephesians 1:3-4

When you were baptized this relationship of love was publicly made official. Kind of like a wedding. When two people are married, there is already a love relationship that exists; the wedding service makes it official.

Many of us were baptized as infants. In faith our parents brought us to the font and on our behalf asked Jesus to put down a solid foundation for our life. In the Lutheran Church, we provide an opportunity for young people, most of whom were baptized as infants, to say for themselves, "Yes! I want to continue in this loving relationship that God started when I was baptized and I want Jesus to continue to build my life." The moment when we ask young people to say this Yes! is Confirmation day.

The entire mix of activities for our middle school students is designed to prepare them for Confirmation Day, so that when asked, “Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism...” these young people will be able to say YES! with as much knowledge, understanding, enthusiasm, spirit, and feeling as is possible!

WEDNESDAY IS OUR DAY FOR CONFIRMATION CLASS

The schedule for Wednesdays is very simple:

- Be at church at 6:30 PM each Wednesday.
- Plan to be picked up at 8:00 PM each Wednesday.
- The content of each Wednesday session will vary with study, service and fun. The whole group will gather for small group check in time, instruction in the large group, processing time back in the small group, and we will end in prayer.
- When we are allowed to gather for dinner, I will communicate when we anticipate that happening.

Dinner:

- We will NOT be doing dinner to begin our year. If anything changes, we will let you know.

SUNDAYS

- Our Confirmation program is designed to prepare young people for full participation in the life of the church. Worship is an important part of our life together, and it is expected that the young people will take an active part in worship.
 - This may be through various ministries (ushering, greeting/welcoming, communion assisting, acolyting, etc.)
- The students in our Confirmation program are expected to assist in Sunday worship as worship assistants at our church services.
- To sign up for acolyting, please use this link:
<http://www.mountcross.com/worship-assistant.html>

BEHAVIOR

- We expect that behavior and language will be appropriate to a community of faith who gather in Jesus` name and seek to live and care for each other

following His style: “In everything do to others as you would have them do to you.” Matthew 7:12

- We have set up a few basic boundaries in which the group works and plays together. The boundary has been crossed if you:
- Two conditions that may help explain this is:
 - Be mindful of the words we speak
 - Be mindful of how we present ourselves
- 1. use foul or abusive language, including racial slurs;
- 2. use physical violence against another person;
- 3. fail to respect the property and contents of the place we are meeting (whether it be church, a home, or park);
- 4. if you fail to clean up the mess.
- 5. We shouldn't have to set consequences for crossing these boundaries but if they are crossed parents/guardians will be contacted and consequences will be discussed.

FRIENDS

- **Friends are always welcome!**
- The only time you will need to ask permission to bring friends is if there is any reason there might not be supervision or transportation enough for all. But you'll know about this in advance.
- Friends are also expected to abide by the same standards of behavior.

CAMP EXPERIENCE

During his time on earth, Jesus would take time to go away either by himself or with his disciples to a quiet place in order to pray. It is important as Christians that we too take time out to focus on our faith by ourselves and with other Christians.

- As part of our Confirmation ministry we expect students to participate in at least one summer and one winter camp experience. This may include going to El Camino Pines for summer and/or winter camp, or a church-sponsored overnight retreat during the school year.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

The Guides and the pastor are assistants to the parents in the raising up of a child in the way he or she should go (see Proverbs 22:6). We aren't doing this for you; we're doing this with you. And we want what we do on Wednesdays and Sundays to be supportive of what you are already trying to do at home.

While the work of the Guides is one of the most significant gifts of time and effort made to this program, the Guides cannot be the only ones who give time and support to Confirmation. Our success will begin with the interest you take at home in what the students are doing. We also need your support and participation in a variety of ways. Please make sure you let us know how you will help on the bottom of the Confirmation Registration form.

During each year there will be a limited amount of memorization expected. They will not be tested on this at church; we ask that you work with your student to accomplish these tasks:

- 2021-22: Lutheran Living Year.

(Students are required to complete their Confirmation project, which will be based on a core bible passage of their choosing. More details to come!)

WHAT DO WE COVER IN THREE YEARS OF CONFIRMATION?

We will be using the Bible, a variety of YouTube videos as well as “Luther’s Small Catechism”. Over the course of the three years, students will go through all the topics, but when they study them will depend on what year they start. The lessons will give a good overview of the basics of Christianity to strengthen them in their relationship with God and their journey of faith.

SMALL GROUPS

For many years we have divided the large assembly of students into small groups. This year we will start with small groups at 6:30PM. We will break our group up differently each week so the youth get to know each other from all the age levels. The Guides help to create an atmosphere of care and a network of nurturing relationships to enhance the lessons being taught.

In the small groups we will do ‘Highs & Lows,’ and later in the evening we will go back to our small groups to discuss the lesson.

- Someone once said, “The purpose of prayer is not to find the answers, but to find God.” We want the purpose of confirmation to include knowing the catechism as well as knowing Christ. To accomplish this, we need more than workbooks and weekly lectures. We need relationships, we need small group bonding.

Outside of Confirmation, we do offer small groups for our middle school youth. They meet separate of Wednesday nights. If you would like to participate in these, please let Joe know.

CONFIRMATION DAY 2022

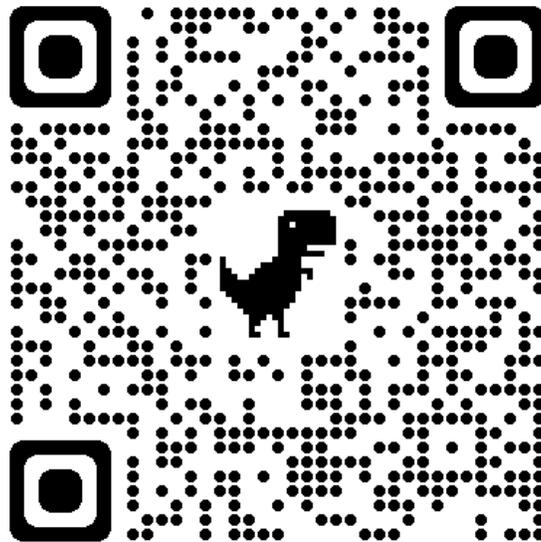
- Confirmation Day will be May 21st, 2023.
- Immediately following the service, we traditionally have a cake reception hosted by 1st & 2nd year students and parents.

The 1st & 2nd second year parents and students help coordinate some of the features of the day including: picking up the cake, serving the cake, coffee and punch at the reception following the service, and photographs of the Confirmation Class.

- Please indicate on the bottom of the Parent Registration form (see below) how you can help using our QR Code.

Mount Cross Lutheran Church Confirmation 2022-2023 Parent Registration

Please scan using your camera app, look at the top of your screen and you will see a notification from your internet browser on your phone. Click the notification and please fill out the Google Form. If you have any questions, please let us know.



2022-2023- Confirmation Year

**(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)*

September		
	15	Fall Programs Start
	22	Lutheran Welcome to the Bible
	29	Lutheran Welcome to the Bible
October		
	6	LWR Kit Assembly Day
	13	Lutheran Welcome to Reformation Way
	20	Family Game Night @ Zanders Game House
	27	Lutheran Welcome to Reformation Way
November		
	3	Lutheran Welcome to Jesus
	10	Veterans Day - No Confirmation
	17	Serve Day
	24	Thanksgiving Eve - No Confirmation
December		
	2	Lutheran Welcome to Jesus
	9	Review
	16	CAROLING
	23	CHRISTMAS BREAK
	30	CHRISTMAS BREAK

CONTACT INFORMATION

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