

CONFIRMATION OVERVIEW



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Confirmation Module Series

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Confirmation is a public rite of the church preceded by a period of instruction, in which baptized Christians learn about the confession, life, and mission of the Christian Church. The Rite of Confirmation provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God's promise given in Holy Baptism, to make a personal public confession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of fidelity to Christ.

Faith education is a life-long process. Along the way there is a significant spiritual rite that takes place. Confirmation Day for our youth is a moment to publicly confess the faith that they have been given. That, however, is merely a milestone along the life-long process. This process is one that must be done together: families, friends, members in Christ, and pastors. Together we seek to encourage each other in the study and growth of faith in Jesus Christ.

CONFIRMATION IS A BEGINNING, NOT A GRADUATION

It looks like a graduation, might feel like a graduation, even has a robe like graduation and it is held about the same time of year as graduation...it must be a graduation from church. The Rite of Confirmation should mark the beginning of one's adult life as a Christian. We never "graduate" from God. He is our Creator, Protector, and Savior. He wants to walk with us every day of our lives. He wants to reveal new truths to us each day of our lives. He wants us to cling to our faith in Jesus in our last days and on into eternity.

*Confirmation Day is the first Saturday in May.
This year it will be on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 10:00am.*

COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

At St. Paul's, our youth receive their first Communion after completing Confirmation instruction. The Bible instructs us in the necessity of examination before communing. Therefore, Confirmation instruction allows us, parents and pastors, to teach about Communion prior to receiving it. Then our children are able to properly examine themselves before receiving God's gracious, holy gift.



PHILOSOPHY OF THE CONFIRMATION PROCESS

THE GOALS OF THIS INSTRUCTIONAL PROCESS FOR THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION INCLUDE:

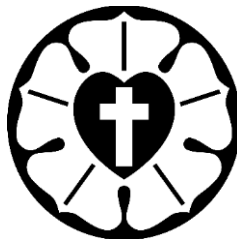
1. Fostering well-rounded knowledge
 - Biblical knowledge
 - Doctrinal knowledge
2. Connecting daily lives to Scriptural truths
3. Allowing for deeper relationships
 - Among youth peers
 - Between youth and pastors
4. Creating flexibility for the many vocations of our youth
5. Encouraging faith study as a year-round, life-long process

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

1. *Pray for your child.* Daily, you already pray for your child, but now pray for your child's knowledge, interest, and confession of the faith to grow.
2. *Attend the parent meetings.* On the first meeting of each module there will be a 15-minute parent meeting at drop-off time. Please plan to attend this parent meeting for each module your child signs up to take.
3. *Review for tests.* Confirmands will have notes from class which will help them study for the tests. Review these notes with them.
4. *Administer tests.* Tests will be e-mailed to you to proctor. Please take note of the deadlines for returning the tests.
5. *Attend class.* You are invited and welcome to attend any of the Confirmation classes with your child. This will enable you to grow in your faith, as well as increase your ability to discuss specifically the matters of class at home with your child.

THE SMALL CATECHISM

The Small Catechism is a tool used during faith instruction. It was originally written by Martin Luther so that fathers could teach the faith to their children at home. Ultimately the Small Catechism is a guide to teaching the truths given in God's Word. Therefore, the Small Catechism does not replace the priority of God's Word. It should be a tool you can use at home to continue the conversation of faith with your child throughout the process of Confirmation and beyond.

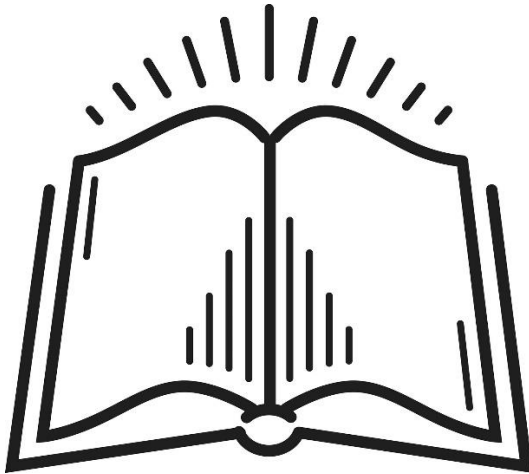


CONFIRMATION MODULES

All Confirmation instruction will be offered in a modular format. This means that the biblical and doctrinal teachings will be divided into a total of 18 modules. These modules must be completed by Confirmation Day, held each May. Modules may vary in length of meeting, but most will be offered in 1 ½ hour blocks. These blocks will be offered at different times of the day, days of the week, and seasons of the year to accommodate busy schedules.

In 5th and 6th grade, students focus on Bible stories. The goal is to give students a basic grasp of the scope of the Bible and key stories throughout Scripture.

In 7th and 8th grade, students focus on doctrinal concepts of the Lutheran faith. These classes dive deeper into the doctrinal beliefs we believe and confess from the Bible.



MODULE CALENDAR

FIFTH & SIXTH GRADE MODULES

SUMMER 2018

MODULE	DATES OFFERED
CREATION & PATRIARCHS	TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY June 5, 6, 7 12:30pm-2:00pm
SLAVES TO PROMISED LAND	TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY June 19, 20, 21 9:00am-10:30am
EMPIRE, EXILE, & PROPHETS	TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY June 26, 27, 28 12:30pm-2:00pm
JESUS THE CHRIST	TUESDAYS June 5, 12, 19 12:30pm-2:00pm
CHURCH EVERLASTING	WEDNESDAYS July 18, 25, Aug 1 9:00am-10:30am
CHURCH LETTERS	MONDAYS July 30, August 6, 13 9:00am-10:30am
BIBLE	<i>Select one of the following three dates:</i> MONDAY, July 8; 10:00am-12:00pm TUESDAY, July 17; 4:00pm-5:30pm WEDNESDAY, July 25; 4:00pm-5:30pm
LAW AND GOSPEL SERMONS	<i>Select one of the following three dates:</i> TUESDAY, July 10; 4:00pm-5:30pm MONDAY, July 16; 10:00am-12:00pm MONDAY, July 23; 4:00pm-5:30pm

MODULE CALENDAR

SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE MODULES

ORGANIZED BY 2018-2019 SEASONS

SUMMER 2018

MODULE	DATES OFFERED
APOSTLES' CREED: FATHER	MONDAYS: July 9 & 16 8:00am-10:00 am
APOSTLES' CREED: SON	WEDNESDAYS: July 11 & 18 10:00am-12:00pm
APOSTLES' CREED: HOLY SPIRIT	MONDAYS: July 23 & 30 8:00am-10:00am
LORD'S SUPPER	MONDAYS: August 13, 20, & 27 4:00pm-5:30pm
WORSHIP	TUESDAYS: August 14, 21, 28 & Sept 4 6:30pm-8:00pm
HOLY BAPTISM	WEDNESDAYS: August 15, 22, & 29 4:00pm-5:30pm

FALL 2018

MODULE	DATES OFFERED
LORD'S PRAYER	SATURDAYS: September 8 & 15 9:00am-11:00am
OFFICE OF THE KEYS	MONDAYS: September 10 & 17 4:00pm-5:30pm
LUTHERAN HISTORY	TUESDAYS: September 11, 18, 25 & October 9 6:30-8:00pm
TEN COMMANDMENTS	MONDAYS: September 24 & October 1, 8 & 15 4:00pm-5:30pm
APOSTLES' CREED: SON	TUESDAYS: October 30 & November 6, 13 & 20 6:30pm-8:00pm
APOSTLES' CREED: FATHER	SATURDAYS: November 3 & 10 9:00am-11:00am
APOSTLES' CREED: HOLY SPIRIT	WEDNESDAYS: November 7, 14 & 28 4:00pm-5:30pm

WINTER 2018

MODULE	DATES OFFERED
LUTHERAN HISTORY	MONDAYS: January 7, 14, 28, & Feb 4 4:00pm-5:30pm
TEN COMMANDMENTS	TUESDAYS: January 8, 15, 22, & 29 6:30pm-8:00pm
WORSHIP	WEDNESDAYS: January 9, 16, 23 & 30 4:00pm-5:30pm
OFFICE OF THE KEYS	SATURDAY: February 2 9:00am-11:00am
HOLY BAPTISM	TUESDAYS: February 5, 12, & 19 6:30-8:00pm
LORD'S SUPPER	WEDNESDAYS: February 6, 13, & 20 4:00pm-5:30pm
LORD'S PRAYER	MONDAYS: February 11 & 25, March 4 & 11 4:00pm-5:30pm

MODULE CALENDAR

SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE MODULES *ORGANIZED BY MODULE TITLE*

MODULE	DATES OFFERED <i>Choose One Class Offering Per Module</i>
APOSTLES' CREED: FATHER	MONDAYS: July 9 & 16 8:00am-10:00am
	SATURDAYS: November 3 & 10 9:00am-11:00am
APOSTLES' CREED: SON	WEDNESDAYS: July 11 & 18 10:00am-12:00pm
	TUESDAYS: October 30 & November 6, 13 & 20 6:30pm-8:00pm
APOSTLES' CREED: HOLY SPIRIT	MONDAYS: July 23 & 30 8:00am-10:00am
	WEDNESDAYS: November 7, 14 & 28 4:00pm-5:30pm
HOLY BAPTISM	WEDNESDAYS: August 15, 22 & 29 4:00pm-5:30pm
	TUESDAYS: February 5, 12 & 19 6:30pm-8:00pm
LORD'S PRAYER	SATURDAYS: September 8 & 15 9:00am-11:00am
	MONDAYS: February 11 & 25 & March 4 & 11 4:00pm-5:30pm
LORD'S SUPPER	MONDAYS: August 13, 20 & 27 4:00pm-5:30pm
	WEDNESDAYS: February 6, 13 & 20 4:00pm-5:30pm

LUTHERAN HISTORY	TUESDAYS: September 11, 18, 25 & October 9 6:30pm-8:00pm
	MONDAYS: January 7, 14 & 28, February 4 4:00pm-5:30pm
OFFICE OF THE KEYS	MONDAYS: September 10 & 17 4:00pm-5:30pm
	SATURDAY: February 2 9:00am-11:00am
TEN COMMANDMENT	MONDAYS: September 24 & October 1, 8 & 15 4:00pm-5:30pm
	TUESDAYS: January 8, 15, 22 & 29 6:30pm-8:00pm
WORSHIP	TUESDAYS: August 14, 21 & 28, September 4 6:30pm-8:00pm
	WEDNESDAYS: January 9, 16, 23 & 30 4:00pm-5:30pm

EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE: All modules must be completed before youth is prepared to be confirmed. Youth must attend every session of each module. If a situation arises that keeps your child from attending a class, they are allowed to attend that class when that module meets again.

WORSHIP: Youth are expected to be in worship. Occasional illness or other uncontrollable situations occur, but many opportunities to worship are provided.

ASSESSMENTS: Youth will complete the assigned assessment at the end of each module. Assessments will be completed at home and later returned to the church. Youth must pass.

MEMORY WORK: Youth must pass all memory work tests
Sermon Reports: 12 Sermon reports due between August-December and an additional 12 sermon reports due between January – May.

RETREAT

A retreat preceding Confirmation Day is *required* for all youth who intend to be confirmed that year. This retreat assists in reviewing material and building peer relationships.

Retreat is the Friday-Saturday the week before Confirmation. It is held off-site and is an overnight event. This year it will be Friday, April 26 – Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 5:00pm-5:00pm.

PRAYER PARTNER MINISTRY

Many people of St. Paul's are, and will continue to pray for your youth as they grow in the faith. In their final year of Confirmation, each child is assigned a specific Prayer Partner. The identities of these Prayer Partners are hidden until Confirmation Examination. That night is highly anticipated as Confirmands meet the person who has been diligently praying for them throughout their final Confirmation year. The Prayer Partners may occasionally be family members, but are often members of the congregation who desire to form new relationships with our youth.

CONFIRMATION EXAMINATION

Confirmation Examination is a tradition at St. Paul's that provides youth an opportunity to publicly share the details of their faith instruction. It also allows family and congregational members an opportunity to support the youth in their public declaration. The complete list of examination questions will be made available ahead of time for plenty of preparation. Examination questions that pertain to each module will be provided in the parent booklet you will receive at the individual module parent meetings.

Confirmation Examination is the Thursday preceding Confirmation Day. This year it will be May 2, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Following the examination is a joyous reception for the family and Prayer Partners.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

1. *Concordia Self Study ESV Bible* published by Concordia Publishing House
2. *Luther's Small Catechism* published by Concordia Publishing House
3. *Lutheranism 101* published by Concordia Publishing House
4. *One Hundred Bible Stories*, published by Concordia Publishing House

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions related to the process of Confirmation at St. Paul's, please contact:

Pastor Kevin Thomson

kthomson@stpaulsdesperes.org

314-365-3521 (mobile)



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

12345 Manchester Road

Des Peres, MO 63131

314-822-0447

www.stpaulsdesperes.org