

CONFIRMATION EXPECTATIONS

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Historically, at Abiding Presence, students have begun confirmation classes in the 6th grade, continuing through the 7th and 8th grades, with the retreat and confirmation worship service being held in 9th grade. Instructional classes in preparation for Affirmation of the Rite of Baptism (commonly referred to as Confirmation) are now being taught in a 3-year cycle covering the Small Catechism (A), Old Testament (B), and New Testament (C).

Small Catechism will be taught during the 2026-2027 school year.

All Confirmation students are expected to:

1. Complete a Confirmation Covenant each year.

The covenant is to be signed by both the parent and student.

2. Worship and commune regularly

The third commandment says, “Remember the Sabbath day and keep it Holy.” Martin Luther, in his explanation of this commandment, teach us that “we are to fear and love God so that we do not neglect his Word and the preaching of it, but regard it as Holy and gladly hear and learn it.” When we skip a meal, we become hungry. When we skip the Eucharist, we become spiritually empty.

Worship with Holy Communion is celebrated here at Abiding Presence every Sunday at 9:30 am and Monday evenings at 7:30 pm. **Confirmation students are expected to attend a minimum of 2 services and complete a minimum of 2 worship summaries per month.** Blank worship summary forms are located on the table in the Narthex. Completed worship summaries is how attendance is collected and should be returned to the bin on the table in the Narthex.

3. **Attend confirmation classes on Wednesday nights.**

We will begin our evening with pizza in Good Shepherd Hall at 6:30 pm. **Class will begin promptly at 7:00 pm and end at 8:00 pm, in the Sanctuary.** If we need to meet until 8:30 pm on any night because of a service project or special program, we will notify you. Students are expected to bring the Student Book and Study Bible to class every week, and to maintain a folder holding all notes from each lesson. During the Advent and Lenten seasons, and on other special worship days, there will not be classes, but students and parents are required to attend Advent worship at 7:30 pm. A link will be emailed out weekly in order to properly prepare for class, please respond.

4. **Memory work and growth assessment**

All students are expected to know from memory the Lord's Prayer, Apostles' Creed and the Ten Commandments.

5. **Participate in the ministry of this congregation**

In order to help develop a close relationship with our Lord, it is expected that all students will become involved in His ministry through involvement in the many activities of this congregation; their church family. Parents can help their children get involved by setting an example of regular participation and by sharing their values and beliefs. Each student must choose the appropriate number of activities from each of the following categories.

Service to Abiding Presence- 2 hours monthly

Required to **try each service** before committing to monthly service. Choose **ONE** and indicate your choice on your covenant. A link will be emailed monthly for easy signup. Please register as a courtesy so we can properly plan our services. During service students must complete a Worship Summary form. These are located on the narthex table and in the Resources and Forms section of our website. Please place completed summaries in the Confirmation bin for attendance/ service credit.

- Acolyte
- Usher
- Video production (livestream)
- Greeter
- Altar Guild

Social Ministry/ Community Service

Choose **TWO** and indicate your choices on your covenant

- Caroling at St. Johnland nursing home - December
- God's Work Our Hands Sunday - September
- Fundraising events
- Supermarket Food Drives (2-3 times a year)
- Operation Christmas Child - November
- Valentines for Veterans - November
- Pasta and the Word, Trinity Wyandanch (3rd Saturday of each month)
- Christmas Wreath decorating - November
- Breakfast with St. Nicholas - December
- Christmas Pageant - December
- Youth Group Car Washes
- Vacation Bible School – July/August
- Sunday School Helper – May - September

6. Complete the entire 3-year instructional cycle, attend the Confirmation Retreat and complete writing assignments

Students will not be allowed to proceed onto the next cycle year until they have completed all of the requirements of the current year.

- Minimum of 2 worship services and sermon summaries per month
- Minimum attendance of 75% of classes
- Minimum participation of 2 hours per month in service to the church
- 2 or more activities per year in Social Ministry and community

While it is the student's responsibility to know the status of their confirmation expectations (sermon summaries, attendance, participation, etc.) we will issue updates during the school year. Confirmation worship service letters will be available upon request. All other social ministry hours are signed at the event using the Abiding Presence Volunteer Service Award Recording Log or school log of your choice.

VISIT THE CHURCH WEBSITE WWW.ABIDINGPRESENCECHURCH.ORG OR SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ALL NECESSARY FORMS.

