

Confirmation Overview

Purpose: The goal of the confirmation process is to grow Christians—to help young people grow in grace and in relationship with Jesus Christ. It will also emphasize building relationships with other Christians, providing young people with tools for Christian living, and helping them begin to articulate their faith.

Schedule: Classes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Year Confirmation meet from September through mid-May on Sunday mornings from 10:15 A.M. until 11:15 A.M.

4th Year Confirmation students will meet in Pastor Amy's church office AFTER Education Time on Sunday, September Sept. 8, 29 & Oct. 6 to prepare for the Affirmation of Baptism/Rite of Confirmation on Reformation Sunday.

Requirements: There are 31 classroom days throughout the 2019-2020 class year. Students are required to attend a minimum of 23 classroom lessons (around 75% attendance). In addition to the classroom, students should participate in at least two service events. One week of Confirmation Camp in the summer is required. Be sure to let the office know when participating in activities so the students Confirmation Tracker is accurate. Worship sermon notes are also a requirement for Confirmation. Additional information for each of these requirements follows.

Curriculum

1st, 2nd and 3rd Year Confirmation students: The 2019-2020 curriculum for all Confirmation students will focus on "The Story" along with the rest of the congregation during Education Time. **Students are asked to bring "The Story", Teen Edition bible to class.**

4th Year Confirmation: The 4th Year Confirmation students are asked to join the Post-Confirmation Education Time on Sunday. **Students are asked to bring "The Story", Teen Edition bible to class.**

In addition, the 4th year Confirmation students meet three times during the two months before students are confirmed on Reformation Sunday at the end of October. It is preparation for the Affirmation of Baptism/Rite of Confirmation at the 9:00 A.M. worship service on October 27, 2019. We will review the previous years' studies. In addition, each person will create their own unique Faith Project, which will be presented at the Confirmation Banquet held at church at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 26. Families, mentors, baptismal sponsors, and friends of the confirmands are invited to attend the banquet. **Students should bring to class their Bibles and copy of Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*. Students must have satisfactorily met the requirements in order to be confirmed.**

Worship

It is difficult to overestimate just how important attendance at worship with their family is for youth in the confirmation process. The classroom lessons build on what is heard in worship that day, as well as what happens in worship in a more general sense. In order to ensure this attendance, and their attentiveness, students are asked to complete a minimum of 10 Sermon Notes each year (except 4th Year Confirmation Students) for a total of 30 Sermon Notes overall.

All students also are expected to take a role in worship. They may choose to be an usher, lector, communion assistant, Chancel Team helper (communion set-up & clean-up), or participate in other worship experiences. The St. Paul Parish Administrator posts the volunteer schedule in the Monthly Perspective and sends email reminders.

Confirmation Camp

One week of Confirmation Camp in the summer following sixth grade is required. It usually takes place in mid-June at the Pine Lake Bible Camp near Waupaca, a part of Crossways Camping Ministry. Registration is held in early March, when a deposit of \$120 will be required; the congregation pays the rest of the camping fee. If the deposit is a financial hardship, families are encouraged to apply for help. Contact the church office for further details.

Retreat Day

Each year a special Sunday is set aside for an event featuring a movie, pizza and fellowship. 2nd and 3rd Year Confirmation Students should plan to participate in worship, education time, join us for lunch, and discuss the film until about 2:00 P.M. In alternate years, the film shown will be about either Jesus or Martin Luther. Students are required to attend both films. The movie, scheduled for Sunday, April 19, 2020, will be about Martin Luther.

Absences and Accountability

Class attendance is required. When being absent is unavoidable, we ask that you read the chapter assigned for that week and reach out to your teacher with questions. Those involved in worship leadership are asked to sign in on the day of their service, using the notebooks on the counter in the narthex. Be sure to record name, date and service performed, then ask the adult leader to initial this record. Sign-in sheets also are available for Service Events and other activities. Sermon Notes should be returned to the plastic box on the counter in the narthex, where extra forms also are available. All of this information will be compiled, and reports keeping track of students' progress will be mailed to the parents in September or available anytime at your request. **Students must have satisfactorily met the requirements in order to be confirmed.**

Suggested Donation

Instead of a donation, we ask each family to purchase "The Story" bible for their child. Scholarship money is available to help those for whom this is a financial hardship.

Confirmation Process

This is a summary of minimum guidelines to support the Confirmation process goals. We are willing to adjust these guidelines if student circumstances dictate a need.

Please read the Confirmation Overview handout for complete details.

Requirement	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year
Classroom Lessons	25 (of 33)	25 (of 33)	25 (of 33)	3
Worship Role	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Sermon Notes	10	10	10	0
Confirmation Camp	One week	of camp	following	6 th grade.
Service Events	2	2	2	0
Retreat Day	0	1	1	0
Faith Project	0	0	0	1

Confirmation Schedule 2019-2020

Orientation & Classes begin	Sunday, September 8, 2019	10:15 A.M.
4th Year Confirmation Class	Sunday, Sept 8, 29 and Oct 6	11:15 A.M.
4th Year Confirmation Banquet	Saturday, October 26	6:00 P.M.
4th Year Affirmation of Baptism/Rite of Confirmation	Sunday, October 27	9:00 A.M.
Holidays (no classes held)	December 22, 29 and Apr 12	Christmas & Easter Season
2nd and 3rd Year Retreat Day, Luther Film	Sunday, April 19, 2020	11:15 A.M.–2:00 P.M.
Last Day of Class	Sunday, May 10	10:15 A.M.
Confirmation Camp (one week)	TBD (Most likely in June)	