



**FAMILY of CHRIST**

*Lutheran Church*

# **Confirmation Handbook**

**2017-2018**

# The Basics

- For students in 6th-9th grade
- Confirmation meets Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:00 PM
- All students gather for a brief worship with communion and a lesson, then transition to small group time. Small groups are formed based on grade and gender and typically stay together over the course of the program.
- Small groups are led by adult and high school “Lifeguides” who surround youth with love, care, support and prayer.

## Registration (fee for confirmation at Family of Christ is \$150)

Register online at:

<http://tinyurl.com/FoCconfirmationregistration>

### 2017-2018 Schedule

Sept 20: 9th graders & parents meeting	Jan 3
Sept 27: Kick-off	Jan 10
	Jan 17: Hot Topics
Oct 4	Jan 24
Oct 11	Jan 31
Oct 18: No Wednesday activities	
Oct 25: Make a Difference Day	Feb 7
Oct 28/29: Fall Retreat	Feb 14: Ash Wednesday
	Feb 21
Nov 1	Feb 28
Nov 8	
Nov 15:	Mar 7: No Wednesday Activities
Nov 22: No Wednesday Activities	Mar 14
Nov 29: Hot Topics	Mar 21: Ventures Drama
	Mar 28: No Wednesday Activities
Dec 6	
Dec 13	Apr 4
Dec 20: No Wednesday Activities	Apr 11
Dec 27: No Wednesday Activities	Apr 18: Make a Difference Day
	Apr 25: Last night of Confirmation
	9th grade service rehearsal
	Apr 28/29: Affirmation of Baptism
	services for 9th grade

# 6th-8th Grade Details

## **The Curriculum**

Using a variety of Lutheran Confirmation curriculums, staff members rotate teaching large group time using Powerpoint presentations, object lessons, art, music, movie clips, drama, games, and more.

6th-8th grade has a 3 year rotation:

- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Luther's Small Catechism which includes the Lord's Prayer, 10 Commandments, Apostles' Creed, and the Sacraments

## **What does a typical evening of Confirmation look like for 6th-8th grade?**

### **6:30 PM: Large Group in the Sanctuary**

- Worship with Communion\*\*
- Offering is collected to support local social service agencies on summer mission trips
- Teaching time led by a staff member or pastor

\*\*Communion instruction available upon request; please talk to a staff person or pastor

### **7:20 PM: Small Group Time**

- Small groups, formed by grade and gender, meet in the same locations each week
- Time in small group focuses on relationship-building and reflection and discussion on the evening's topic

### **8:00 PM: Time to head home**

# 9th Grade Details

**\*\*IMPORTANT PARENT/STUDENT MEETING ON  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 AT 6:30 PM\*\***

## The Curriculum

Using a variety of Lutheran Confirmation curriculums, staff members rotate teaching large group time using Powerpoint presentations, object lessons, art, music, movie clips, drama, games, and more.

9th grade:

- Identify their God-given gifts through the Strengths Finder Assessment
- Complete a Faith in Action Project
- Explore the 5 promises they will make at their Affirmation of Baptism Service
- Hear from High school students and young adults about how they are living out their faith in daily life.

## 9th Grade will rotate between different locations and formats:

***Check the website after September 1 for an up-to-date schedule and locations***

- **Large group/small group time at church.**
  - 6:30 PM: 9th graders will start in the sanctuary
    - Worship with Communion
    - Offering is collected to support local social service agencies on summer mission trips
  - 6:50 PM: Teaching time led by a staff member or pastor in lower lever family room
  - 7:20 PM: 9th graders will meet in small groups for relationship building, discussion, and prayer
  - 8:00 PM: Time to head home
- **Bible study and discussion w/pizza at Davanni's in Chanhassen**
  - Meet in the party room at Davanni's in Chanhassen (464 Lake Drive, Chanhassen, MN 55317)
  - Bring \$5 to chip in for pizza
- **Faith in Action Project work nights**
  - Faith in Action Projects are projects that 9th grade students complete individually during their 9th grade year that combine their gifts, talents, and passions with their faith. A packet of information will be discussed at the September 20 meeting.
  - Bring your laptop, tablet, or other supplies you need to work on your project
  - Staff and Life Guides will be available to help you as needed
- **Special nights including Hot Topics, Make a Difference Days**
  - More details about these nights on the next page

# Special Nights/Events

(these are for all students, 6th-9th grade)

## **Hot Topics:** November 29 & January 17

Twice a year parents are encouraged to join us for special speakers that address topics relevant to middle and high school and how faith plays a role in these issues. A parent discussion follows the presentation while students are in their small groups. Some examples of topics: drugs, suicide/depression, technology/social media, friendships, relationships with parents, dealing with stress, and more.

## **Make a Difference Day:** October 25 & April 18

Twice a year we spend our evening doing a variety of service projects. Small groups rotate throughout the evening and have a chance to make a difference in a variety of ways.

## **Fall Retreat:** October 28-29

All 6th-8th grade confirmation students and Lifeguides are invited to Base Camp in Minneapolis! We will do team building, Bible study, games, worship, and more!

*The cost of the retreat is included in your confirmation registration fee.*

9th graders and other high school students are invited to help plan the retreat



# Wednesday Dinners

**5:30-6:15 PM each week**

Come early and eat with your friends!

Sign up each week at <http://tinyurl.com/focmeal>

Pizza (\$3 slice, 2 slices for \$5) or Subway Subs (\$5 each)

Meal includes fruit, milk, and dessert. Punch cards are available for up to \$50.

## What to Bring Each Week

- 1. Bible:** 6th graders will receive their confirmation Bibles on September 27 (The Kick-off).
- 3. Writing Utensil & Highlighter:** Bible highlighters are available for \$1 in narthex
- 4. Offering:** Offering will be collected each Wednesday and used for special projects during the summer mission trips.
- 5. Field Bags (optional):** Family of Christ bags are available for \$15 to use to carry all your gear to confirmation each week. Available in the narthex.

## Engaging in Worship

We recognize that each student makes faith connections in different ways. The following opportunities are available as a tool to help students engage in worship in a variety of ways:

- Worship notes: available in the kiosk in the narthex on the backside of Engaging in Worship form
- Worship conversations: located next to the worship notes. The forms encourage family conversation following worship.
- Serving as an acolyte, reader, greeter, usher, or singing in a music group.
- Creating a picture that depicts the theme of the sermon or service
- Sharing a picture, quote, scripture, or thought regarding the sermon or service on social media and tagging @focyouth
- All of these options, and more, are listed on the *Engaging in Worship/ Worship Notes* form found in the narthex kiosk. Completed forms can be placed in the wire basket in the church office. Pastors or staff will respond to questions and prayer requests when appropriate.

# Music Groups for Confirmation Students

- **Lux Aeterna:** 6th-8th graders- Rehearses on Wednesdays from 6-6:30 PM.  
Opportunities for voices and instrumentalists.
- **Epic:** 9th-12th graders— Rehearses 2 Wednesdays a month at 8 PM. Schedule is available on the church website.

*Youth are always welcome in all music groups—  
contact [Mary Renz](#) or [Andrea Zimmerman](#) if you are interested in joining a group.*

## Communication

- Parent emails are our primary form of communication regarding confirmation so make sure to check the email you used at registration regularly and let us know if your email changes.
- All confirmation information can be found at:  
[www.familyofchristonline.com/making-disciples/youth-ministry/confirmation-6th-9th-grade](http://www.familyofchristonline.com/making-disciples/youth-ministry/confirmation-6th-9th-grade)
- Cancellations: Family of Christ follows District 112 (Eastern Carver County) for weather-related cancellations. All cancelations will be posted on the homepage of the church website
- Follow us on social media  
Twitter: focyouth  
Instagram: focyouthministry

## Staff

- Leann Thompson, Director of Faith Formation: [leann@familyofchristonline.com](mailto:leann@familyofchristonline.com)
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