

# CONFIRMATION



## GROWING IN GOD'S FAMILY

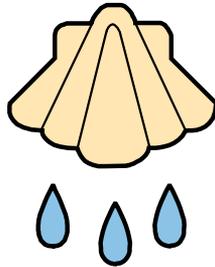
Confirmation at  
Zion Lutheran Church

Grades 7, 8, 9  
2017-2018

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Confirmation Summary	3
Core Courses	4
Core Course Considerations	5
Core Course Registration	6
Elective Courses	7-11
Elective Course Registration	11-12
Bible Camp, Worship Notes, Advent & Lent	12-13
Record Keeping Form	14
Questions and Answers	15-16
Youth & Parent Covenants	17-18
Confirmation Requirements	19
Worship and Lenten Notes Form	20

“In Christian love you have presented these children for holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring them to the services of God’s house, and teach them the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As they grow in years, you should place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith...”



These familiar words from the Service of Baptism will gain added meaning as our children enter grades 7, 8, and 9. The majority of the confirmation education will take place in those grades.

While most link “education” and “classroom learning” as synonymous, we cannot deny that much of our most influential learning comes through experience. With this in mind, the Zion confirmation program has been designed to go beyond the limits of classroom education.

In addition, busy schedules challenge the lives of families today. Thus, the Zion confirmation program acknowledges this by providing flexible educational opportunities that you schedule.

## **During Grades 7, 8, & 9**

- You will be registering for and participating in two “CORE” courses per year. Core courses are those subjects that are the foundation for our life of faith.
- Core courses may be taken in the traditional, classroom style in three – 2 hour sessions OR in a retreat setting. Taking either a core retreat or a core classroom session fulfills one “Core Course” requirement.

### **Core Courses**

2017-2018

- The Lord’s Prayer
- Sacraments
- New Testament Bible

2018-2019

- The Apostles’ Creed
- Worship
- Luther’s Life

2019-2020

- Old Testament Bible
- The Ten Commandments
- The Gospels

### **CORE COURSES**

- Register for 2 (two) per year
- You may take either “classroom” or “retreat”

## Core Course Considerations

Together, parents and students can make some choices about registering for courses. Consider the activities you participate in during the school year. Is there one season you are particularly busy?

A second consideration will be whether you would like to take both courses either classroom style, retreat style, or one of each. There may be a slight cost for Core Retreats for meals.

Last, read over the list of core courses on this page. Are there some topics you are especially interested in and would like to take this year?

### Core Classes

- The Lord's Prayer
- Sacraments
- New Testament Bible

Core Retreats are an overnight stay (usually at Zion).

**BRING:** Your Bible, sleeping bag/pillow, etc.,  
overnight items, and a great attitude for learning.

**TIME:** Begins Friday with supper at 5:30 p.m. and  
ends Saturday at 12:00 p.m. (no noon meal).  
Supper and breakfast will be included.

## Core Course Registration

Register for Two (2)

### Core Retreats

Autumn	“The Lord’s Prayer” October 20-21
Winter	“Sacraments” January 19-20
Spring	“New Testament Bible” April 13-14

### Core Classroom

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. for 3 consecutive Wednesdays

Autumn	“The Lord’s Prayer” October 25, November 1, 8
Winter	“Sacraments” January 17, 24, 31
Spring	“New Testament Bible” April 18, 25, May 2

Which two Core Courses will you take this year?  
(Write title and circle Retreat or Classroom)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Retreat / Classroom
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Retreat / Classroom

## ELECTIVES

During Grades 7, 8, & 9

➤ There are 5 categories of electives. You will be registering for one of each of the categories. Elective courses are those learning experiences that supplement the foundation material. These wide-ranging courses try to meet the various interests of our students.

Elective Courses (Register for five (5) per year)

(Choose one (1) per category.

(Limit of 15 students per class)

Classes will be held from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

### CATEGORY ONE

### SERVICE STUFF

***“Holy Cats and Dogs!”***

***Sat, Sept 23 8 am-12:30 pm***

Who doesn't love cats and dogs?!?! There are plenty of animals in our area that go without homes or have to be given up for one reason or another. And they are part of God's creation that we are charged to take care of. We will go to the Marathon County Humane Society for a few hours of service work. Activities will include, cleaning cages, cleaning/preparing cage material (blankets, dishes, etc...) cleaning play areas, and a few others. Oh...and we'll get some time at the end to spend with the animals☺! Limited to 10 students.

***“Bingo @ Country Terrace”***

***Wed, Oct 18, 5:30 pm***

We will walk to Country Terrace and play Bingo with the residents there. This is an opportunity to relate to people who are in care facilities who have little contact with young people. Limited to 10 students.

***“Meal at St. Vincent De Paul”***

***Wed, Feb 7, 4 pm***

We will help prepare and serve the “Fellowship Meal” at St. Vincent de Paul's. We'll leave church at 4:00pm and be back to church around 7:00pm. Parents are needed to help drive

and prepare meal.

***“Feed My Starving Children”***

**Sat, April 14 8:30 am – 11:30 am**

Be part of an awesome, fun, and meaningful experience helping to feed hungry children thousands of miles away. Feed My Starving Children sends millions of nutritious meals all over the world each year, and we will help them do it! We will leave Zion in Stratford at 8:30am to go to Zion Methodist Church in Marshfield to pack meals and learn a little about hunger, poverty, and food insecurity. We will return to Stratford around 11:30am.

Other members of the congregation will join us for the service activity at “Feed My Starving Children”.

**CATEGORY TWO**

**BIBLE STUFF**

***“Three Kings – Not Three Wise Guys”***      **Wed, Sept 13**

Saul, David, and Solomon – first three kings of Israel. Who they were and what we can learn from them!

***“12 Disciples – The Provincial Bumpkins”***      **Wed, Nov 29**

Jesus’ disciples were ordinary men who were called to do extra ordinary things. What can we learn from these guys about our own discipleship?

***“Crucifixion”***

**Wed, Apr 4**

What is it about? Why did Jesus die this way? Capital punishment today.

***“Can Someone Lose Their Salvation?”***

**Wed, May 16**

What does the Bible say? What does Jesus say? How can we be sure?

## **CATEGORY THREE**

## **EVERYDAY STUFF**

### ***“How Should I Treat My Date – Be Treated on a Date?”***

***Wed, Sep 20***

How do I know I'm safe on a date? How does the way I'm treated show me more about who I am and who they are?

### ***“Peer Pressure -You're Not a Zit, So Don't Let People Squeeze You!”***

***Wed, Jan 3***

How do we build on our strengths and minimize our weaknesses?

### ***“Finding Your Gifts from God”***

***Wed, Apr 11***

Everyone is unique, and God gifts each of us. We will use a profile to find our gifts.

### ***“Financial Habits”***

***Wed, May 23***

“I want it and I want it now!” How to handle the powerful tool called money! How can I be more than a material kid?

## **CATEGORY FOUR**

## **CHURCH STUFF**

### ***“Singing in Choir or Bell Choir”***

***Wed, Oct 4***

Nine month commitment to sing in Zion's Praise Choir or play in the Bell Choir.

### ***“Godstock” (9<sup>th</sup> grade)***

***Fri-Sun, Nov 10-12***

Spend time with youth from all over the synod at the Metropolis in Eau Claire. There will be worship, speakers, a great band, and fun evening events at the water park and skate park. Cost will be \$40 per person. We will need some parents to drive and participate as adult leaders throughout the full event. We'll leave Friday around 4:00 pm and arrive home on Sunday around 3:00pm.

### ***“Cleaning the Sanctuary”***

***Sat, March 3, 9 – 12 pm***

The Faith Formation Team cleans the sanctuary every spring. You will help beautify the sanctuary by wiping down the pews, cleaning the pew cushions, and replacing items as needed.

**“Christ Jam” (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades)      Sat, March 10—7 am**

Spend the day with youth from all over the synod. There will be a speaker, service activity, fun workshops, worship, and just a good time. Cost will be \$20 per person. We will need some parents to drive and participate as adult leaders throughout the full event.

**CATEGORY FIVE      FAITH AND FAMILY STUFF**

***“The High Cost of Free Love”      Wed, Oct 11***

This generation of students is faced with a raging plague of sex-related problems. Pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and rape statistics are at all-time highs. In a captivating and inspiring talk, Pam Stenzel tackles the tough issues of sex with candor and insight. This elective must be selected once during your three years and a parent must accompany you.

***“God’s World, Our World”      Wed, Jan 10***

As we identify the growing effects of climate change, we are challenged as Christians to respond in faith. Collectively, we can bring the generations together to care for God’s creation in effective and relevant ways! A parent must accompany you.

***“Take a Look in the Mirror”      Wed, May 9***

This elective is for mothers and daughters and will look at development of character that is far more important than cultivating outward beauty. We will be proactive and help each other build the strength of character to thrive as the women God created us to be. A parent must accompany you.

***“Why Dads Are So Important”      Wed, May 30***

We sometimes take this father/son relationship for granted, not taking the time to have fun with each other or talk with each other about life and faith. Don’t do that! This elective will provide some intentional time for fathers and sons to be together, have fun together, and talk together. We will have

some friendly father/son competition followed by an opportunity for father to father and father to son faith discussion surrounding current and relevant topics. A parent must accompany you.

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### **Elective Registration**

Register for Five (5). Choose one out of each category.

Limit of 15 students per class please.

**6:00 to 7:30 p.m.**

#### **CATEGORY ONE**

#### **SERVICE STUFF**

- Sept. 23 Holy Cats and Dogs (Sat. 8 am – 12:30 pm)
- Oct 18 Bingo at Country Terrace (5:30 pm)
- Feb. 7 Meal at St. Vincent De Paul (4 pm)
- April 14 Feed My Starving Children (8:30 am – 11:30 am)

#### **CATEGORY TWO**

#### **BIBLE STUFF**

- Sept. 13 Three Kings
- Nov. 29 12 Disciples
- Apr 4 Crucifixion
- May 16 Can Someone Lose Their Salvation?

#### **CATEGORY THREE**

#### **EVERYDAY STUFF**

- Sept. 20 How Should I Treat My Date – Be Treated on a Date
- Jan 3 Peer Pressure
- Apr 11 Finding Your Gifts from God
- May 23 Financial Habits

#### **CATEGORY FOUR**

#### **CHURCH STUFF**

- Oct. 4 Singing in Choir or Bell Choir
- Nov. 10-12 Godstock (9<sup>th</sup> Grade) (Fri – Sun)
- March 3 Cleaning the Sanctuary (Sat – 9 am-12pm)

March 10 Christ Jam (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades) (Sat - 7 am)

## CATEGORY FIVE

## FAITH AND FAMILY STUFF

- Oct. 11 High Cost of Free LOVE (parent must attend)
- Jan. 10 God's World, Our World (parent must attend)
- May 9 Take a Look in the Mirror (parent must attend)
- May 30 Why Dads Are So Important (parent must attend)

## Bible Camp

- We require each youth to attend Bible camp once during grade 7 or 8.
- Advent Suppers will help pay for Confirmation Camps. Zion pays for half of the Confirmation Camp fee and parents pay half.

## Worship Notes

- Worship is an expectation of Zion's confirmation ministry. Worship is where God meets us in Word and Sacrament, and we are fed the "Bread of Life."
- Students are required to do 16 worship notes per year. If you go to another church, you may do a worship note and bring it back to Zion.

## Advent & Lent

- Students are required to attend and participate in Advent and Lenten worship services. Students will help serve (read, greet, acolyte, and usher) during the worship services.
- During Advent the parents and students are asked to help with one of the Advent suppers. The money raised helps defray the costs of Confirmation Camp.
- During Lent, students need to find a mentor to meet with them at least 5 times during the six-week period and they are asked to do 5 Lenten Mentor Discussion Sheets (they will have the 6 Lenten worship services and the 6 Sunday worship services to get these done). The mentor you pick should **not** be a family member, so start thinking of this early. And don't forget to **ASK** them. Don't assume anything.

## **Record Keeping**

You are asked to keep track of the courses you take during grades 7, 8, & 9. Please use the form on the following page to chart your progress.

In addition, a “bookkeeper” will monitor your progress toward confirmation. If you have any questions about the requirements or wonder if you are meeting the requirements, please contact the bookkeeper.

## **Confirmation Bookkeeper**

Lori Lang

687-4110

[office@zionlc.com](mailto:office@zionlc.com)

## **Zion Ministry Staff**

Pastor Sue

687-4110 or 687-4381

[eides@zionlc.com](mailto:eides@zionlc.com)

# Record Keeping Forms

## Grade Seven

### Core Courses (title and date)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Class / Retreat
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Class / Retreat

### Elective Courses

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Grade Eight

### Core Courses (title and date)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Class / Retreat
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Class / Retreat

### Elective Courses

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Grade Nine

### Core Courses (title and date)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Class / Retreat
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Class / Retreat

### Elective Courses

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

ATTENDED BIBLE CAMP \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions and Answers

- Q. What if I sign up early to take my core and elective courses, but then can't attend one (or more) of them because of a change in our family schedule? What should I do?
- A. We encourage you to sign up for classes as soon as you decide what you would like to take. Once you register, the list is on file at the church office and with your bookkeeper. If you realize you can't attend a course you signed up for, please look at this booklet and decide what you will take in place of that course, keeping the requirements in mind. **DO NOT** wait until spring to meet the requirements! Once you have decided what change you will make, call the church office and let us know what class you will NOT be taking and what class you would like to register for.
- Q. What will happen if I don't attend a confirmation course I registered for?
- A. If you registered for an elective or core course and did not attend, your bookkeeper will be in contact with you. In most cases, the bookkeeper will call you and ask what you will be taking in place of the missed course. The bookkeeper is there to help ensure that you fulfill your requirements and keep track of your progress. Please avoid having the bookkeeper contact you by contacting the office with any changes in course registration.
- Q. What if I didn't attend Zion last year and was part of another church's confirmation program?
- A. We encourage you to call the church office and meet with Pastor Sue if you are a new addition to the Zion confirmation program and the church. We can discuss what learning you have been involved with so far. In most cases, you will fit into our program without needing to make many adjustments in requirements.

- Q. This confirmation program requires me to attend a Bible camp. What if I've already been to a Bible camp?
- A. If you have attended a Bible camp before, you have fulfilled the requirement. We simply want you to experience attending a camp. Let the office know what camp experience you've had.
- Q. What if I have gone or want to go to a Bible camp other than Crossways?
- A. You fulfill the camp requirement by attending any Bible camp.

### **Other Important Info**

- School snow days will be considered Confirmation snow days as well. Call the church office if you have any questions and listen to the announcements at school.
- Discipline – we hope this will not be a problem, but in the case that actions get out of hand or behavior is detrimental to the class or retreat, you as parents will be contacted. We plan to work together in partnership.

## **Covenants with Youth**—

- ❖ Come to class! If you cannot make a class or retreat, please contact Lori or Pastor Sue ASAP. You will need to find another class to take its place (check your booklet).
- ❖ Please be on time and prepared. Bring your Bible, a writing utensil, and your positive and ready-to-participate attitude! “You get out what you put in.”
- ❖ Be faithful in worship. When you are in town, plan to come on Sunday morning. If you are out of town, do some research and find another church to participate in worship.
- ❖ Appropriate behavior and language is ALWAYS expected when participating in a confirmation activity.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Covenants with Parents**—

Parents, you play an incredibly important role in the spiritual growth of your children. Without your support and Christian witness at home, anything we teach and practice at church is greatly hindered. Actions speak louder than words. We ask you to:

- ❖ Spend time using the Faith5 daily in your homes. This will help EACH OF YOU grow closer to God and as a family.
  - Share highs and lows together (meaningful conversation about your lives).
  - Read the Bible or a daily devotional.
  - Talk about how the reading applies to what is going on in your life right now.
  - Pray about your highs and lows. Thank God for the blessings in your family's life and ask God for help in the ways you each are struggling. Pray for the confirmation ministry of Zion.
  - Bless each other! Make the sign of the cross on each other's forehead and tell them GOD loves them. Tell them YOU love them!
- ❖ Be faithful in worship. When you are in town, plan to come on Sunday morning. If you are out of town, do some research and find another church to participate in worship.
- ❖ Set a Christian example at home in word and action.
- ❖ Attend classes with your child(ren) when required.
- ❖ Give encouragement and work with your child to complete confirmation activities.
- ❖ Cooperate with confirmation leaders and mentors in meeting requirements on time.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Confirmation Requirements (Checklist)**

- ✓ 2 Core Classes per year (Retreat or Classroom)
- ✓ 5 Elective Classes per year (1 per category)
- ✓ Bible Camp (once during 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- ✓ 16 Worship Notes per year
- ✓ 5 Special Lenten Worship Notes
- ✓ A Mentor to meet with during Lent (not a family member)

FYI:

Advent Wednesday Services are: Dec. 6, 13, 20

Lenten Wednesday Services are: Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14 and 21.

Please keep this booklet in a convenient location for easy reference. This booklet is also available on Zion's website at [www.zionlc.com](http://www.zionlc.com)

**2017-2018**

**GRADE \_\_\_\_\_**

**WORSHIP NOTES**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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**LENTEN MENTOR DISCUSSION SHEETS**

1	2	3	4	5
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**LENTEN MENTOR \_\_\_\_\_**

Contact the Church office when you know the name of this person by **Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**. Make sure you ask this person before submitting their name, even if this person has been your mentor in the past. You do not have to use the same person each year. Remember to **not** pick a family member.

**NOTES:**