

# CONFIRMATION



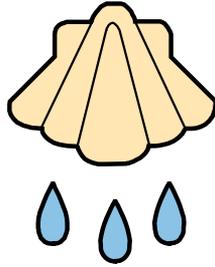
## GROWING IN GOD'S FAMILY

Confirmation at  
Zion Lutheran Church

Grades 7, 8, 9  
2018 -2019

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**Confirmation** in the **Lutheran** Church is a public "affirmation of baptism" and is a mature and public reaffirmation of the faith which "marks the completion of the congregation's program of **confirmation** ministry." It is a reminder of the promises made in baptism and how God has been at work throughout the journey, often called the Baptismal Journey.

University Style learning has been a part of Zion's confirmation program for several years with positive response from both students and parents.

This booklet is your guide to the program. Please keep it handy and record your progress. I look forward to another great year of learning both on my part and on the part of you students.

Pastor Sue

Do you intend to continue in the covenant  
God made with you in holy baptism:

**live** among God's faithful people;

**hear** the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper;

**proclaim** the good news of God in Christ through word and deed;

**serve** all people following the example of Jesus; and

**strive** for justice and peace in all the earth?"

**Response:** We do and ask God to help and guide us.

## **CORE COURSES**

### **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. You can take 3.

### **Core Courses**

#### 2018-2019

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

#### 2019-2020

- Old Testament Bible
- The Ten Commandments
- The Gospels

#### 2020-2021

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

## **CORE COURSES**

- Register for 2 (two) per year
- You may take either “classroom” or “retreat,” but **not the same one!**

## 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

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

Core Retreats are an overnight stay.

**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 11:00 a.m.  
Supper and breakfast will be included.

## CORE COURSE REGISTRATION

Register for Two (2)

### Core Retreats

Autumn	“Luther’s Life” October 19-20
Winter	“The Apostles’ Creed” February 22-23
Spring	“Worship” May 10-11

### Core Classroom

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

Autumn	“Luther’s Life” November 7, 14, 28
Winter	“The Apostles’ Creed” February 13, 20, 27
Spring	“Worship” May 15, 22, 29

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

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

***Take a moment now to talk over and  
decide on your Core Courses!***

## 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 10 students per class.)

Classes will be held in the Conference Room from **6:00 to 7:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise.**

### CATEGORY ONE

### SERVICE STUFF

#### ***“Crop Walk”***

***Sun, Sept 30 Meet at Zion at Noon***

From its birth in 1969, Church World Service sponsored CROP Hunger Walks. These have grown to include walkers of all ages, faiths, and backgrounds in more than 1,000 communities throughout the U.S. The CROP Hunger Walk is America’s Hunger Walk. We will be walking in Marshfield. This is for you and members of your family to walk for hunger. Money will come back to Stratford Food Pantry.

#### ***“Bingo @ Country Terrace”***

***Wed, Oct 17***

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 6, 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 13 Time to be determined***

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 and 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.

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

***Take a moment to mark one you might take!***

## **CATEGORY TWO**

## **BIBLE STUFF**

***“What is Faith? Do I Have It?”***

***Wed, Sept 19***

When Lutherans talk about faith, we are talking about the relationship God’s Holy Spirit creates with us. It’s a relationship where God’s promise of steadfast love and mercy in Jesus opens us to a life of bold trust in God and joyful, generous service to everyone we know and meet in daily life. We will explore what Martin Luther had to say about faith and how we live it out in daily life.

***“Big Names in the Old Testament”***

***Wed, Oct 3***

Who were the big guns in the Old Testament and why? Names like Noah, Moses, Rahab, Samson, Deborah, David, Jonah? This study will show us how God chose ordinary people to do extra ordinary things. We’ll see.

***“Respect”***

***Wed, Oct. 10***

Have you ever had a hard time respecting someone in authority over you? This elective will give us an opportunity to look at “respect” with new eyes. We will use biblical characters to learn about this important characteristic.

***“Parallel Parking the Gospels”***

***Wed, Jan. 30***

We will be using a synopsis for the four Gospels, to compare and to better understand certain stories within the life of Jesus Christ. Can you say fancy?

***Again, check one you think looks interesting!***

**CATEGORY THREE**

**EVERYDAY STUFF**

***“The Social Media Junkie Guide to Life”***

***Wed, Sep 26***

Did you see what John posted about Jenny? Did you hear about that school shooting today? Let us think about what we are posting, and how we are representing ourselves, our family/friends, and even our community. What does it look like to live out our Christian identity on ALL social media platforms?

***“Truth or Dare”***

***Wed, Jan. 9***

Dealing with the tensions of right and wrong can be difficult. How do we know what to do when the answer isn't in black or white? What are some of the controversies when it comes to ethics? What is truth and how do I know what it is?

***“Why Do School Shootings Happen?”***

***Wed, Jan 16***

Why do you think there are so many school shootings now as opposed to say 25 to 30 years ago? We all know that guns can't shoot themselves, so obviously that is not the problem in my opinion. So why, what's happening, who are the shooters and why? What's your opinion on this issue?

***“Choices”***

***Wed, April 24***

How do we make the best choices? What is the “why”, “how”, and “what” behind your choices? We are sometimes blinded by what molds and shapes the decisions we make. How does being a child of God help us as we allow room for God to work in our lives?

***What looks good?***

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

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

***“Camp 101”******Wed, Oct 24***

Camp counselors from Crossways will be joining us for a night of camp games, songs, and a Bible study. This is a fantastic introduction to confirmation Camp. Plus, camp is not just a one-and-done thing to meet your Confirmation requirements. Think about going again, and again and again.

***“Baptismal Blankets”******Wed, Nov 7***

All babies baptized at Zion receive a baptismal chest with a number of items to start the family on this little one’s Baptismal Journey. We include a fleece blanket which we will make, or should I say tie, during this elective. We will have all the materials; you do the work.

***“Godstock” (9<sup>th</sup> grade)******Fri-Sun, Nov 9-11***

Spend time with youth from all over the synod at the Metropolis in Eau Claire. There will be worship, speakers – Andy and Missy Rock, a great band, and fun evening events at the water park and skate park. Cost will be \$85 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 30, 9–10:30 am***

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 2 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.

***Check your favorite!***

**CATEGORY FIVE                      FAITH AND FAMILY STUFF**

***“The High Cost of Free Love”                      Wed, Jan 23***

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.

***“Why Dads Are So Important”                      Wed, May 1***

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. Dad must accompany you.

***“Take a Look in the Mirror”                      Wed, May 8***

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. Mom must accompany you.

***Pick one!***

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***It's not about who is in the class,  
but what do you want to learn.***

## Elective Registration

Register for Five (5). Choose one out of each category.  
Limit of 10 students per class please.

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

### CATEGORY ONE

### SERVICE STUFF

- Sept. 30 CROP Walk (Meet at Zion at Noon)
- Oct 17 Bingo at Country Terrace
- Feb. 6 Meal at St. Vincent De Paul (4 pm)
- April 13 Feed My Starving Children (time to be determined)

### CATEGORY TWO

### BIBLE STUFF

- Sept. 19 What is Faith? Do I Have It?
- Oct. 3 Big Names in the Old Testament
- Oct. 10 Respect
- Jan. 30 Parallel Parking the Gospels

### CATEGORY THREE

### EVERYDAY STUFF

- Sept 26 The Social Media Junkie Guide to Life
- Jan 9 Truth or Dare
- Jan 16 Why Do School Shootings Happen?
- April 24 Choices

### CATEGORY FOUR

### CHURCH STUFF

- Singing in Choir or Bell Choir
- Oct. 24 Camp 101
- Nov. 7 Baptismal Blankets
- Nov. 9-11 Godstock (9<sup>th</sup> Grade) (Fri – Sun)
- March 2 Christ Jam (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades) (Sat - 7 am)
- March 30 Cleaning the Sanctuary (Sat – 9-10:30 am)

### CATEGORY FIVE

### FAITH AND FAMILY STUFF

- Jan. 23 High Cost of Free Love (parent must attend)
- May 1 Why Dads Are So Important (Dad must attend)
- May 8 Take a Look in the Mirror (Mom 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. **Make sure your name is readable.**

## 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)

Text: 715-506-0012

# YOUR RECORD

## 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. Tell us!
- 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. 5, 12, 19

Lenten Wednesday Services are: March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, and 10.

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)

**2018-2019**

**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 17<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: