

CONFIRMATION



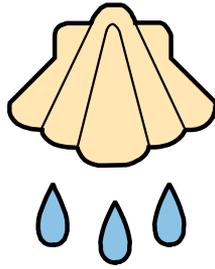
GROWING IN GOD'S FAMILY

Confirmation at
Zion Lutheran Church

Grades 7, 8, 9
2019 - 2020

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Starting with the End in Mind

This is a journey you take as part of the community.

Let's start with the end in mind. Picture this: By the spring of your tenth grade year, you have been loved, motivated and stretched at Zion. You've served in Sunday worship services as an acolyte, assisted with Holy Communion, ushered, and may have been an assisting minister. You've participated in classes of our core beliefs and what it means to live out those beliefs in everyday life. Through retreats, servant projects and classroom learning you have found some answers and more questions needing to be answered. You've chosen a mentor who has been honest about life (theirs and yours). You've talked about your highs and lows, celebrations and disappointments. You've learned to talk with your family about God stuff.

You are ready to put into words your own affirmation of baptism, by writing your own faith statement, sharing how you were set apart by God, blessed to be a blessing. What it means to be sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

You are becoming more aware of God's movement in your family, your world, and your life. You've explored the Scriptures deeply and claimed your life Bible verse. You've discovered some of your life gifts and talents and identified ways to put them into action.

You realize you have a whole congregation surrounding you in your journey ready to pray for you, guide you and encourage you. You are ready to be involved as an adult active member of this congregation. In this, you affirm your baptism: and are “confirmed” by your church as having upheld your commitment.

Confirmation Means

"Confirmation ministry is a pastoral and education ministry of the church that helps the baptized through Word and Sacrament to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in its mission." -- The Confirmation ministry Task Force Report, ELCA, 1993

- Everything involved in confirmation ministry flows from Baptism.
- Confirmation happens in a living community of faith and is the responsibility of the whole congregation.
- Effective confirmation ministry involves use of a variety of persons and approaches.
- Young people benefit from confirmation ministry programs that include diverse models of learning.

Parent Participation in Confirmation

Parents are partners with Confirmation in many ways. Our hope is that you make Confirmation a family priority. Check in with your student when they arrive home, find time to discuss topics over a smoothie or breakfast before school.

Worship with your child each week and discuss insights and observations. Worship is so important to growth as followers of Jesus. We need your support and reinforcement of scheduled opportunities for worship serving.

For the seasons of Advent and Lent we invite families to attend mid-week worship together. No formal classes are offered during these seasons. Worship is the connection we are going for.

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 – 1 1/2 hour sessions OR in a retreat setting. Taking either a core retreat or a core classroom session fulfills one “Core Course” requirement.

Core Courses

2019-2020

- “Ten Commandments”
- “The Bible”

2020-2021

- “The Lord’s Prayer”
- “Sacraments”

2021-2022

- “The Apostles’ Creed”
- “Worship”

CORE COURSES

- Register for 2 (two) per year
- You must take both either as a retreat or classroom

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

- “Ten Commandments”
- “The Bible”

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 11:30 a.m.
Supper and breakfast will be included.

* **Exception:** If necessary, for example no chaperones, we will meet Friday evening only from 5:30 – 10:30 p.m.

CORE COURSE REGISTRATION

Register for Two (2)

Core Retreats

Autumn "Ten Commandments"
November 1-2

Winter "The Bible"
January 24-25

Core Classroom

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. for 3 consecutive Wednesdays

Autumn "Ten Commandments"
November 6, 13, 20

Winter "The Bible"
January 29, February 5, 12

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

“Walk for Water”

Wednesday, Sept. 18

The average woman in Sub-Saharan Africa walks a little more than three miles each day to fetch water for her family – the same distance as a 5K. But she is not just walking, she’s carrying one or two containers of water. We will walk from the church to the two mile Heritage Trail and back carrying a gallon milk container full of water.

“Bingo @ Country Terrace”

Wednesday, Jan. 8

We will walk over 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 10 Students.

“Meal at St. Vincent De Paul”

Wednesday, Feb. 19

St. Vincent serves a free fellowship dinner for the needy every Wednesday night at 5pm. Our group will need to be there at 4pm to prepare and serve meal through clean up by 6:30 pm. Notice the time difference. This is a great opportunity to serve. Parents are needed for drivers and helpers.

“Feed My Starving Children” Saturday, April 18

Be part of an awesome, fun, and meaningful experience helping to feed hungry children thousands of miles away. We will leave Zion in Stratford and to Zion Methodist Church in Marshfield to pack meals and learn a little about hunger, poverty, and food insecurity.

Take a moment to mark one you might take!

CATEGORY TWO

BIBLE STUFF

“The Be-attitudes” Wednesday, Sept. 25

The Be-attitudes!—The Beatitudes have been interpreted in many ways since Jesus first spoke the words. We will explore the ins and outs of these famous words and how they might guide our lives.

“How the Bible Helps Us” Wednesday, Oct. 30

Where do I find what I really need in the Bible? How can the Bible be an active part of everyday life? Does the Bible fit into a teen’s life? The Bible is practical and useful. We will look at verses to live by.

“7 ‘I Am’ Statements” Wednesday, May 13

John uses 7 “I Am” statements to build a clear picture of who Jesus is and what he came to do. Taking time to study these statements encourages us to deepen our faith as followers of Jesus.

Again, check one you think looks interesting!

CATEGORY THREE

EVERYDAY STUFF

“15 Challenges Most Youth Deal With”

Wednesday, Oct. 16

Grades 7-9 are supposed to be about making mistakes and bouncing back from disappointments. Some youth navigate turbulence with spunk; some struggle with self-awareness

and assertiveness. What are some tools that help youth traverse this time?

“Setting Limits”

Wednesday, Jan. 15

1 in 3 of your peers experience physical, sexual, or both forms of dating abuse by a partner. While in college, *over half* of your peers will experience abusive or controlling behaviors from their partners. How do we recognize problems and set limits in our relationships?

“Life Keys”

Wednesday, April 22

This elective helps people discover how God has uniquely created them. Engaging stories, inventories, self-tests, and other easy-to-use exercises make Discover Who You Are a one-of-a-kind tool. It will help to find or deepen meaning in life, considering volunteer opportunities, contemplating careers, or desiring to become more useful to God.

“Quarters for Malawi”

Wednesday, May 6

Back by popular demand this elective gives the community an opportunity to share with the children of Malawi. Quarters go a long way toward feeding children.

What looks good?

CATEGORY FOUR

CHURCH STUFF

“How We “Do” Church”

Wednesday, Oct. 23

Serving during worship is everyone’s privilege. How do you usher, ring the bell, greet, and a number of other possibilities. We will take a look at the “how” and practice in the sanctuary. This is a “how to,” and a “why” class.

“Banner Making”

Wednesday, Jan. 22

In this elective you will plan, design, and create a banner to be used in the worship space. Banners are seasonal and used for special events. Banners are a focus that help us worship. June Krueger

“GodStock” (9th Grade)

November 8-10

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 \$85 per person. We will need some parents to drive.

“Christ Jam” (grades 6-8)

February 22

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 is \$20 per person. We will need some parents as adult leaders and drivers.

Check your favorite!

CATEGORY FIVE

FAITH AND FAMILY STUFF

“The High Cost of Free Love” Wednesday, Oct. 9

This elective speaks clearly and with humor to the pitfalls of sexual activity. This elective is one parent(s) are required to attend with student. It includes a video and conversation. This elective must be selected once during your three years.

“Take a Look in the Mirror” Wednesday, April 29

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. Moms must come.

Pick one!

***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. 18 "Walk for Water"
- Jan 8 "Bingo at Country Terrace"
- Feb. 19 "Meal at St. Vincent De Paul" (4 pm)
- April 18 "Feed My Starving Children" (time to be determined)

CATEGORY TWO

BIBLE STUFF

- Sept. 25 "The Be-attitudes"
- Oct. 30 "How the Bible Helps Us"
- May 13 "7 'I Am' Statements"

CATEGORY THREE

EVERYDAY STUFF

- Oct 16 "15 Challenges Most Youth Deal With"
- Jan 15 "Setting Limits"
- April 22 "Life Keys"
- May 6 "Quarters for Malawi"

CATEGORY FOUR

CHURCH STUFF

- Oct. 23 "How We "Do" Church"
- Jan. 22 "Banner Making"
- Nov. 8-10 "Godstock" (9th Grade) (Fri – Sun)
- Feb. 22 "Christ Jam" (7th & 8th Grades) (Sat - 7 am)

CATEGORY FIVE

FAITH AND FAMILY STUFF

- Oct. 9 "High Cost of Free Love" (parent must attend)
- April 29 "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

Zion Ministry Staff

Pastor Sue

687-4110 or 687-4381

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 7th or 8th 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. 4, 11, 18

Lenten Wednesday Services are: February 26, March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1.

Please keep this booklet in a convenient location for easy reference. This booklet is also available on Zion's website at www.zionlc.com

2019-2020

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 16th**. 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: