**Confirmation Year 1**

***What is Confirmation?*** *It is the process during which a person goes from being “just one of the kids” at church to being a maturing and knowledgeable member of our Lutheran congregation. It is a time for the youth to investigate, ask questions, consider answers, and struggle with all the complexities that come with the Christian faith. Now certainly when one graduates (and gets confirmed) they don’t know everything about God or Christianity, but the purpose of those Confirmation years is that they will know all the basics of the Christian faith as correctly understood by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. But more than simply head knowledge, the Confirmation years are to be a time for the youth to grow spiritually through spending time in worship, prayer, God’s Word, and conversation with other Christians; and after all that, to emerge a stronger Christian, having struggled to learn and accept the basic truths of the Lutheran faith for themselves, and to be bold enough to declare that faith publicly.*

**Confirmation Overview**:

- Confirmation is normally a 2-year process consisting of 35 classes each year.

- After completing all the classes, assignments, and public/private examinations, the confirmands are then publicly confirmed in a worship service and then ready and able to participate in the Lord’s Supper at this and any LCMS congregation.

**Teacher**: Pastor Josh Moldenhauer

* I can be reached at 507-876-2671 (office) or 605-759-8872 (cell) or by email at pastorjoshm08@gmail.com .
* Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

**Date & Time**:

- Classes normally meet weekly for an hour.

- This year we agreed that what worked best for everyone was to meet on Mondays from 6-7 pm during the school year – starting on September 25th.

- Class will normally follow the school year (i.e. if there’s no school, there’s probably no Confirmation class). See the Confirmation schedule for further date details.

**Textbooks:**

- The Bible.

- Luther’s Small Catechism (the new black and maroon 2017 version).

- Copies of both will be provided for you to keep.

**Expectations for the Students:**

- Come to class on time and be prepared (with your Bible, catechism, and a 3-ring binder).

- Treat the teacher and other classmates with Christian love and respect.

- Be ready for all memory work, quizzes, and tests.

- Be open to learning, growing, discussing, and asking questions.

**Acolyte:**

Part of becoming an adult member of the church means increased activity in the worship service. In an effort to foster greater familiarity with worship, the Confirmation students will be trained and acolyting at Trinity on a regular basis. A **2023-2024** **Acolyting Schedule** will be put together later this month.

**Sermon Reports:**

**- 1 Sermon Report** sheet is due every month of Confirmation Year 1 (8 reports total). These can be done every week, without having to wait for the next month. If you fall behind, there are extra services during Lent and Advent – or you can watch online sermons.

- We will discuss how to fill out the Sermon Reports during Session 4

- The **purpose** of Sermon Reports is to develop within confirmands the ability to listen to a sermon, comprehend its meaning, judge its theological correctness, and apply it to your life.

- Blank sermon note sheets will be handed out the first day of class. Extras will be available in the Trinity church mailbox labeled “**Sermon Reports**.”

- Once completed the forms can be turned in to Pastor at the beginning of any class, or in the Trinity church mailbox labeled “**Confirmation**.”

**Parental Guidance:**

As you will soon learn in the 4th Commandment, God gives us parents as a great gift and resource. He gives to our parents the primary responsibility of teaching us the Christian faith and life. In order to foster that parental guidance, roughly once a month you will receive a short reading and writing assignment which will deliberately require the assistance of a parent.

**Assignments:**

* There will be a **memory quiz** at the beginning of class on almost everyday. See attached Confirmation Schedule for details. Memory work will need to be recited to Pastor (by memory) at the beginning of class or written out completely by memory at the beginning of class. Memory work will take some effort and preparation.
* There will be seven **Writing Assignments**, to be written after discussion with a parent (or guardian). These should be 1 page long, handwritten or typed (in a normal size font).
* There will be one (short) **quiz** and two **tests**. The tests in Confirmation are cumulative.

**Attendance:**

- You are expected to be at every class. If, however, during the year situations arise where you can’t make it to class I would appreciate knowing ahead of time if possible.

- If you miss a class, you will be expected to make it up. This will normally involve a one-on-one session with the pastor at a mutually agreeable time.

- In the event of snow/ice days (where locals schools are canceled), Confirmation probably won't meet.  Either way, Trinity will send out a phone blast (automated message) to all of you alerting you of this.

\* Any questions, concerns, or suggestions???