



## **CONFIRMATION 2023 - 2024**

### **INFORMATION SHEET**

#### **What is Confirmation?**

Confirmation is a process during which students are guided in a discovery of their faith, during which they grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, their peers and a caring adult, and their church family. Confirmation is a journey from a head knowledge of faith to a living experience and expression of that faith.

#### **What are the goals of our Confirmation Ministry?**

1. Help students to grow in their knowledge of (head), and relationship with (heart), Jesus Christ
2. Enable students to grow caring relationships with a group of peers and a caring adult
3. Connect students to the ministry of the church, helping them to find their niche and the ways God is calling them to serve
4. The discovery of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and foster a desire to live as disciples
5. Strengthen the role that parents play in the faith-development of their children

#### **How will we meet these goals? What is the structure of the program?**

##### **Three-Legged Stool**

1. Learning Events – *Class returns to a 90 minute in-person format with a Zoom option for those who have concerns about gathering in-person. We will spread the class out as much as possible.*
  - Fun and engaging lessons
    - a. Often a short video to focus on characters or topic
    - b. Active learning with a Biblical focus every week
    - c. Memory work – be able to write out the Ten Commandments, and either the books of the Bible or baptismal promises from memory (depending on the age of the confirmand)
  - Small group time
    - a. Connect with God's Word through discussion and application,
    - b. Connect with one another and a caring adult mentor
2. Fellowship Events – *Currently we have events scheduled in December (caroling), January (field trip to other religious site) and in April (tbd).*
  - Link faith and life – practicing a faith-life skill
  - Develop their group relationships
  - Model Christian community
3. Servant Events - *Confirmands are encouraged to attend Sept. & Oct. Food Distributions*
  - Learn the life-style and hallmark of a disciple
  - Grow in the connections with other students and those outside of their church family
  - Have fun

### **Discipleship Training**

1. Regular Worship Expectation – attend of the 75% of the possible services and complete a Sermon Note Sheet (**15 note sheets required** and you may attend services at another church if you turn in a bulletin with your Sermon Note Sheet. These are available online, but the information can also be emailed to both [youthministries@holyspiritlc.net](mailto:youthministries@holyspiritlc.net) or [pastornathan@holyspiritlc.net](mailto:pastornathan@holyspiritlc.net)).
2. Join a worship support team
  - a. music group like choir or assisting with children's choir
  - b. ushers greeters, communion assistants readers
  - c. behind the scenes like altar service or AV/tech team
  - d. nursery ministry

### **Intensive Faith Building Experiences**

1. Attend Charge (for Middle and HS Youth) at Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City from November 10-12. *While this is optional, it is strongly encouraged. **Registration is already open, so please let us know if your youth plans to attend as soon as possible.***
2. Attend Confirmation camp at least once (preferably more) over the three years.
3. Regular prayer and devotional reading

### **Eighth Grade Confirmation Preparation**

1. Faith Statement – 300 words or a creative project that can be shared either at the end of year banquet or in worship on Confirmation Sunday
2. Confirmation Sunday

### **Supplies needed for Confirmation**

- A good attitude and a desire to learn, grow and have fun
- Supportive parents
- A Bible – preferably an NRSV, which can be marked in.

### **Most NEEDED Resource: You!!!!**

Please review the Parent Covenant info for ways that you can support the program. For the program to work, we need at least one adult small group Guide for every 4-6 youth. We have been blessed with great adult leadership over the years, and it makes all of the difference in the world! Most adults find that they can learn and grow as much as the youth who are present. Thank you ahead of time for all of our great volunteer leaders.



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**PARENT COVENANT**

1. I will pray for the leaders and students who are involved in confirmation ministry.
2. I will offer encouragement and support to all program leaders whenever possible.
3. I will make confirmation learning, service, and fellowship events a family priority as we schedule our yearly commitments.
4. I will make confirmation a family priority by spending time each day and week talking with my student about their sermon notes and confirmation lessons.
5. I will help my children to make their faith life, and their participation in confirmation, one of their highest priorities.
6. I will make my child's confirmation a personal and visible priority by my participation in Holy Spirit's confirmation in the following ways (please check any and all that apply):
  - ☐ Serving as a small group guide for the 2023-2024 academic year.
  - ☐ Serving as a program administrator who records attendance, participation and registration for events and trips, sermon notes, etc.
  - ☐ Providing transportation for small group events.
  - ☐ Hosting a small group event at my house.
  - ☐ Chaperoning a fellowship event.
  - ☐ Sharing a story about my faith with the confirmation class.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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**STUDENT COVENANT**

In order to learn more about Jesus and my faith, to make new friends and strengthen my relationships, and to grow in my commitment to this congregation, I commit myself to the following things:

1. I will pray for my pastors, leaders, parents, and fellow students.
2. I will show respect to my confirmation leaders and fellow students, as I expect to be respected by them.
3. I will attend and actively participate in all learning, fellowship, and service events, not dropping below an attendance percentage of 75%.
4. I will worship regularly, completing worship notes for a minimum of 75% of all services between Sept. 2023 and June 2024. If I attend another church, I can take sermon notes at that church, attach them to a bulletin, and turn them in to receive credit. Turn in at least 15 sermon notes. These will be reviewed & discussed in class.
5. I will make a contribution to the ministry of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church by giving of my time and talents. I will do this by joining a worship support team within the congregation (cross-bearer, ushers, communion assistants, greeters, a/v techs, readers, etc.) or a musical group (teen choir) and participate whenever I am scheduled.
6. I will attend confirmation camp at least once over a summer. (You can attend all three years!)
7. As an eighth grader:
  - a. I will meet with the pastor for final instruction and preparation of an essay of at least three hundred words, addressing the following subjects: 1) What are the essential beliefs of the Christian faith? 2) Who is Jesus and what does he mean to me? 3) What are some ways that I will be involved in the mission and ministry of the Christian church during the next 5-10 years? 4) Why do I want to be confirmed?

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_



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SERVICE & SUPPORT COMMITMENT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

If you are signing up for a team that helps with a worship service, do you have a worship service time preference? Please circle one, if it applies (Sun @ 8:30 or 10:30am) Please place an "x" in front of your choice below:

**Worship Support Teams**

\_\_\_ **Cross-bearer:** The cross-bearer light the candles at the beginning of the Sunday service, carries the cross in and out, helps with the offering plates, and carries the cross back out at the end of the service.

\_\_\_ **Greeter:** The greeters welcome people to worship, show visitors the welcome center and where the restrooms are located, and hold the door for people as they arrive.

\_\_\_ **Reader:** This individual reads one to two lessons during one of the services on a Wednesday evening or Sunday morning.

\_\_\_ **Usher:** The ushers help make the worship service run smoothly. They hand out bulletins, collect the offering, light the candles, dismiss people for communion, move chairs, and basically help people to worship. *New ushers will be mentored by an experienced usher.*

\_\_\_ **Audio/Visual Technician:** The A/V technicians are trained to monitor the sound system, correct problems, set up for special sound needs, and tape services on Sunday mornings. *For new sound techs, there are three required training sessions.*

\_\_\_ **Communion Assistant:** Help distribute communion by holding the cup during a Sunday morning or Wednesday evening service.

\_\_\_ **Worship Team:** Leads worship when asked – Frank will determine when based on your vocal or instrumental gifts.

\_\_\_ **Nursery Volunteer:** The nursery is always in need of volunteers to help watch young children and infants. Volunteers can help at a variety of times, but it is important that you show up when you are scheduled. Please indicate below when you would like to help. Please note: nursery should not replace Sunday morning worship!

# Confirmation Schedule *\*Tentative as of 8/17/2023\**

Month	Date	Theme	Special Notes
September	10	<i>Youth &amp; Parent planning for the year/intro to Confirmation – Charge, Youth Gathering, and more</i>	<i>6:00pm until done (parents please stay)</i>
	17	Mary the Mother of Jesus: The long-suffering Mom	Class 6-7:30pm
	24	John the Baptist: The Rustic Herald	Class 6-7:30pm
October	1	<b>Break Week</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
	8	Centurion: The Roman Convert	Class 6-7:30pm
	15	12 Disciples: The Provincial Bumpkins	Class 6-7:30pm
	22	<b>Break Week</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
	29	Sheep: The Innocent Wanderers	Class 6-7:30pm
November	5	Simon Peter: The Earnest Blockhead	Class 6-7:30pm
	12	<b>Charge Conference in Traverse City</b>	RSVP on Attending ASAP!
	19	Syrophoenician Woman: The Mama Bear	Class 6-7:30pm
	26	<b>Break Week - Thanksgiving</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
December	3	Why do we have Advent?	Class 6-7:30pm
	10	Sadducees & Pharisees: The Legalistic Bureaucrats	Class 6-7:30pm
	17	<i>Activity – Caroling – tentative date – locations TBD</i>	
<b>Christmas Break</b>			<b>December 25 -January 1</b>
January	7	Mary & Martha: The Bickering Sisters	Class 6-7:30pm
	14	<i>Field trip to other religious site *date/time may change*</i>	Class 6-7:30pm
	21	<b>Break Week</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
	28	Judas Iscariot: The Disappointed Revolutionary	Class 6-7:30pm
February	4	Pontius Pilate: The Troubled Politician	Class 6-7:30pm
	11	<b>Break Week – Super Bowl</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
	14	<b>Ash Wednesday Worship @ 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Class expected to attend</b>
	18	Why do we have Lent?	Class 6-7:30pm
	25	Mary Magdalene: The Unsung Apostle	Class 6-7:30pm
March	3	<b>Break Week</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
	10	Thomas: The Zealous Fool	Class 6-7:30pm
	17	Saul/Paul: The Relentless Evangelist	Class 6-7:30pm
	24	<b>Spring Break -begin</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
	28/29	Attend Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Worship	7:00 pm - strongly encouraged
	31	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
April	7	<i>Fellowship/Fun Activity TBD</i>	Class 6-7:30pm
	14	Lydia: The Wealthy Philanthropist	Class 6-7:30pm
	21	<b>Break Week</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
	28	Movie Night – more info to come	Class 6-7:30pm
May	5	Final Class & Party	Class 6-7:30pm
	19	<b>Pentecost Sunday – Possible Confirmation Sunday</b>	
June/July	<b>Confirmation Camp</b> – youth are encouraged to go to Living Water at Stony Lake for one of the weeks. If we have enough interest, we can send a group at one time.		



## EVENT MEDICAL RELEASE & PERMISSION FORM

Effective Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Please print in ink:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Year in school: \_\_\_\_\_ Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Insurance: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Dentist Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### MEDICAL HISTORY

If necessary, describe in detail the nature and severity of any physical and/or psychological ailment, illness, propensity, weakness, limitation, handicap, disability, or condition to which your child is subject and of which the staff should be aware, and what, if any action or protection is required on account thereof. Submit this notification in writing and attach it to this form. Include names of medications and dosages that must be taken.

Check the following areas of concern for this student. If necessary, add another page with details:

1. For your child's safety and our knowledge, is your child a...  
\_\_\_\_good swimmer \_\_\_\_fair swimmer \_\_\_\_non-swimmer
2. Does your child have allergies to...  
\_\_\_\_pollens \_\_\_\_medications \_\_\_\_food \_\_\_\_insect bites
3. Does your child suffer from, ever experienced, or being treated currently for any of the following:  
\_\_\_\_asthma \_\_\_\_epilepsy/seizure disorder \_\_\_\_heart trouble \_\_\_\_diabetes  
\_\_\_\_frequently upset stomach \_\_\_\_physical handicap
4. Date of last tetanus shot: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Does your child wear...  
\_\_\_\_glasses \_\_\_\_contact lenses
6. Please list and explain any major illnesses the child experienced during the last year and explain whether the child's activities should be restricted for any reason:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**For your information, we expect each student to conform to these rules of conduct:**

- Love and respect God, which will be reflected in all conduct
- No possession or use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco
- No students can drive other students during youth events
- No fighting, weapons, fireworks, lighters, or explosives
- No offensive or immodest clothing
- No boys in girls' sleeping quarters and no girls in boys' sleeping quarters
- Participation with the group is expected
- Respect others' property
- Respect one another, staff, and adult leaders
- Respect and comply with event schedules

**Students who fail to comply with these expectations may be sent home at their parents' expense.**

I, the student, have read the rules of conduct, the above evaluation of my health, and permission to participate in youth group activities. I agree to abide by the stated personal limitations and code of conduct.

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

Activities may include, but are not limited to: cookouts, boating, water skiing, swimming, basketball, roller-skating, rollerblading, games in the park, soccer, broomball, ice skating, volleyball, softball, baseball, camping, downhill skiing, snowboarding, hiking, biking, concerts, Bible studies, golfing, miniature golf, hayrides. *Note: If you desire to limit your child's participation in any event, please submit your wishes in writing to the church Pastor or Director of Youth Ministries prior to the event.*

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to attend all youth activities sponsored by Holy  
*Name of Child*

Spirit Lutheran Church (hereafter the "Church") from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

By submitting this form, we recognize that all videos, photos, and digital images produced and gathered by the Church for the purposes of its ministry, become the property of the Church and can be used by the Church for Church-related purposes and publicity.

This consent form gives permission to seek whatever medical attention is deemed necessary, and releases the Church and its staff of any liability against personal losses of named child.

I/We the undersigned have legal custody of the student named above, a minor, and have given our consent for him/her to attend events being organized by the Church. I/We understand that there are inherent risks involved in any ministry or athletic event, and I/we hereby release the Church, its pastors, employees, agents, and volunteer workers from any and all liability for any injury, loss, or damage to person or property that may occur during the course of my/our child's involvement. In the event that he/she is injured and requires the attending of a doctor, I/we consent to any reasonable medical treatment as deemed necessary by a licensed physician. In the event treatment is required from a physician and/or hospital personnel designated by the Church, I/we agree to hold such person free and harmless of any claims, demands, or suits for damages arising from the giving of such consent. I/We also acknowledge that we will be ultimately responsible for the cost of any medical care should the cost of that medical care not be reimbursed by the health insurance provider. Further, I/we affirm that the health insurance information provided above is accurate at this date and will, to the best of my/our knowledge, still be in force for the student named above. I/We also agree to bring my/our child home at my/our own expense should they become ill or if deemed necessary by the student ministries staff member.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_