

What other information do I need to know?

There is a one time cost of \$25 for Confirmation.

This money goes to purchase a Lutheran Study Bible and a Student Handbook that your youth will use throughout confirmation and will get to keep after they are confirmed.

If at anytime you have questions or concerns please contact Pastor Chris with the information below:

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Confirmation Program

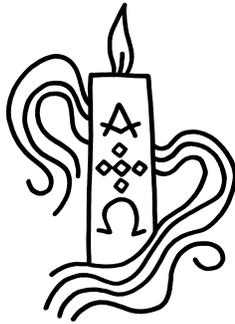


First Lutheran Church of Mandan

Revised August 2014

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation and baptism are deeply connected. Confirmation is a period of study and faith formation, where by young people can engage in and understand the fundamental promises made at their baptism. The students affirm those promises and in so doing they commit themselves to a life of devotion to God, of communion with the church, and service to others.



Simply put, confirmation is the affirmation of baptism. This means that the purpose of confirmation is to affirm, sustain, uphold, and encourage our young people as they deepen their understanding of the promises made at their baptism; and to help them understand what a life of discipleship means. The confirmation curriculum does this by addressing the promises (seen below) made in baptism over the course of two years.

These are the promises taken directly from the ELW: "to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. "

Service Projects:

A life of discipleship is marked by love of God and service to others. Because of this ***each confirmation student will be responsible for participating in a minimum of 25 hours of service work over a two year period.***



Service work is defined as work done in the service to others with out payment. This would include work done through other organizations like 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.

There are forms located in the narthex to fill out each time your youth completes a service project or service activity. Once they are turned in the youth will receive credit. At any point if there is a question or concern about service work please contact Pastor Chris.

Please note that there will be a limited amount of service projects offered up throughout the year for confirmation students, but the burden of service work falls on the student not the small group leader or pastoral leadership.

Retreat:

For all first year confirmation students there will be a required retreat scheduled in October. Please see Pastor Chris for more details.

Faith Statement:

Before the end of the second year the confirmation students will be asked to write a Statement of Faith. A few of these statements will be asked to be read during the confirmation service. A handout with instructions will be given out to explain what a faith statement is and what will be expected before the statements are due.

Behavior:

Refer to Behavior contract

Worship:

Worship is an important part of our lives as Christians. This is the place where we are fed spiritually and grow in our relationship with God and our community of faith.

All confirmation students are required to come to worship regularly. Additionally, during Lent, attendance is required at all Wednesday Lenten worship services.

Confirmation students are also expected to participate in worship. **Each youth will be required to participate in worship a minimum of 25 times during the two year period.**

Worship participation includes a wide variety of activities including but not limited to the following: worship leadership (reading, ushering, PowerPoint, acolyting, etc.), participation in worship groups (choir, picking hymns, offering special music, Easter sunrise service, etc.) If you are not sure whether something will count as worship participation please contact Pastor Chris.

There are sermon note forms located in the narthex to fill out each time your youth participate in worship. Once they are turned in the youth will receive credit. At any point if there is a question or concern about worship participation please contact Pastor Chris.



What does the confirmation program consist of?

Our confirmation program is at its heart a small group ministry. Each of the youth are placed within a small group with one or two adult leaders. The leaders of each group foster both connection and learning within the small group. The small group leaders are not only teachers but mentors as well.

Each month (typically during the school year) confirmation will meet on Wednesdays from 7P.M. to 8P.M. The last Wednesday of each month the small groups will meet together for a time of fellowship and service. At the end of the two years, in the fall of their 10th grade year, the youth will get to affirm their faith publicly, through the confirmation worship service held on Reformation Sunday.

What are the requirements for confirmation?

Attendance:

Attendance is required at all scheduled large and small group events as well as special events. If a student has more than four absences (including illness), they will be required to meet privately with one of the pastors to make up the material that was missed. If a student leaves class early for or arrives late from a sport practice, it will be counted as an absence.

If a student is ill on the day of confirmation, a parent needs call the church office before 5P.M. If a student is missing from class and we have not received a phone call, we will call the parent(s) or guardian(s) to check on the student's whereabouts.

