



Redeemer
Lutheran Church

Confirmation

Confirmation Objectives

Because We Belong...

We Worship

- Forming our identity as a child of God [Word and Sacraments]
- Learning more about God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit [God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, Word of God]
- Developing spiritual disciplines (worship, prayer, Bible reading, etc.) to grow in your relationship with God [Worship Notes, God the Holy Spirit]

We Witness

- Applying your faith to real life situations and relationships [Faith Application, Ten Commandments]
- Training to share your faith with others [Discipleship]

We Serve

- Establishing and strengthening relationships with others through fellowship, study, and worship [Fellowship Activities]
- Participating in a mentor experience [Mentor]
- Loving and serving our neighbors [Service Hours]

Confirmation Formation

We at Redeemer believe not just in educating your child in theology but also in their formation as a Child of God. Ephesians 2:10 says that we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do His will. Being a Christian is more than just knowing the faith but believing in Jesus as your savior with your whole heart and acting upon that faith in everything we do. Our Confirmation Class strives to be formative in one's faith in regard to their whole person.

Behavioral Expectations

Respect One Another

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love” (1 John 4:7-8).

Respect Leaders

“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you” (Hebrews 13:17).

Respect This Place

“I love the house where you live, O Lord, the place where your glory dwells” (Psalm 26:8).

Consequences for Inappropriate Behavior

These guidelines and expectations are meant to guide you on what we expect from your student...

- If a student engages in inappropriate and disruptive behavior, they will be given some type of verbal warning.
- If they continue that behavior, they will be removed from that class and will not be given attendance credit that day.
- If there is an incident involving inappropriate behavior, parent(s) will be contacted during the next week. If the parent(s) would like to discuss the issue, they are encouraged to call the instructor.

We as Christians handle behavior in this nature base on how God has instituted in His Word. Forgiveness is for all. We must also humble ourselves in times when we fail to live up to the expectations of our God and confess our sins to Him and to those whom we disrespect. Immediately upon one’s state of humbleness and contrition, they are absolved of all sin.

Confirmation Requirements

Age

Confirmation is open to those in 6th – 9th grade.

A typical Confirmation student would begin in 6th or 7th grade, completing the program within two years. At the completion of the 12 units, the student will be confirmed. However, if a student begins in 8th grade, for special reasons, we may accommodate the curriculum for them on a case-by-case basis.

Classroom Units

The following columns explains the Units that each Confirmation year will learn.

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2
UNIT 1	Bible Basics	Intro to Small Catechism
UNIT 2	The Beginning	10 Commandments
UNIT 3	The Exodus and Conquest	The Apostles Creed
UNIT 4	The Kings	The Lord's Prayer
UNIT 5	The Life of Christ	The Means of Grace
UNIT 6	The Church	The Christian Life

Practical Units

The additional Units are done at your own pace, outside of classroom.

- Worship Notes
- Service Hours
- Mentor
- Fellowship

**See pages 7-8 for more information on Practical Units*

When should my child begin Confirmation?

Purpose of Confirmation

- Learn the basics of the Christian faith through the study of the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism.
- Reaffirm the statements of belief identified at our baptism.
- Develop lifelong habits of spiritual disciplines.

When should my child begin Confirmation?

- When your child is ready to learn more about their faith in order to speak the statements of belief on Confirmation Sunday and integrate that faith into their life.

Starting in 6th Grade

- Generally, the kids in 6th and 7th grade have a less busy schedule and can fit Confirmation into their schedule easier.
- Some kids are ready for the deeper content offered in Confirmation.

Starting in 7th Grade (*Traditional beginning*)

- An additional year of development allows the kids a deeper understanding of the Confirmation materials.
- Taking Confirmation in 7th and 8th grade provides a smooth transition into high school without a gap year.

Starting in 8th Grade

- For those who have not been a part of Redeemer's activities prior to their arrival in 8th grade.
- Will be considered on an individual basis.

Pre-Confirmation Meeting

To help facilitate conversations of readiness, all Confirmation students and parents are encouraged to contact Pastor Chip or Pastor Aaron about you Student's particular needs and faith walk. You are also encouraged to attend the informational meeting in August to answer any final questions you may have.

Classroom Information

Classroom Attendance

Anytime class is missed, the student must make up any homework for that session. Please notify Pastor Chip, Pastor Aaron, or Jeff Shoumaker if you know you will miss a class session. A student should not miss more than **3 classes per semester**.

The Christian Life

The Christian Life Unit takes place in the last semester of Confirmation, just prior to being confirmed. The Christian Life Unit will include the writing of a Faith Reflection Paper and preparing a project that will be set up in the Narthex on Confirmation Sunday for the congregation to see.

Mentor

Each 2nd year Confirmation student is matched with an adult mentor in order to discuss their faith as it applies to their life. We will begin asking for potential mentors during the spring of their 1st year in Confirmation. After being matched with a mentor, you will meet with them a **minimum of 3 times** during the following year. These relationships are meant to help strengthen your faith by speaking with and learning from an additional adult figure. For each meeting, the student will need to turn in a mentoring reflection form.

Worship Reflection Notes

Each Confirmation student will need to complete a **total of 20** worship notes. Forms may be picked up and turned in the back corner of the gym, where baskets are labeled and hanging on the wall. You may also print out a form from the Confirmation page on the Redeemer website.

Service Hours

Each Confirmation student will need to complete a **total of 3** service events. For each service activity completed, you will need to turn in a Service Hours Reflection sheet.

Often students wonder about the various ways in which they can serve. A couple rules of thumb to keep in mind: The activity should not be part of normal household chores, and you should not get paid for what you do. Here are some ways in which people have served:

- VBS
- Food Pantry
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Babysitting
- Visiting Shut-Ins
- Mowing lawn/Raking leaves/Shoveling snow for neighbor
- Loaves and Fishes
- Sophia's Kitchen
- Food drive
- Assisting in a school activity (you are not a participant)
- Many more....

Fellowship

Each Confirmation student is strongly encouraged to attend "Jr. High Connect" on Sunday Nights (6:00 – 7:30 pm)

All kids in Junior High are welcome to attend any fellowship activities, regardless of their enrollment in Confirmation.

Additional Confirmation Topics

Junior High Connect

All junior high kids in 6th – 8th grade are strongly encouraged to attend any of the social activities. The cost of attending any of the activities will be the same for those in Confirmation and those not in Confirmation.

Sunday School

The junior high Sunday School class gives the junior high kids an additional opportunity to learn about the Bible. Sunday School class runs from 9:30-10:25 a.m. every Sunday morning and is open to everyone who is not in first year confirmation classes. While class on Wednesday night mainly focuses on the catechism and application of faith to everyday life, we strongly encourage all 2nd year confirmands to attend Sunday mornings to continue growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Worship

The worship of God flows from a living faith. Worship is the primary time to gather as a family of God and encourage each other in our life of faith. It is expected that Confirmation students and families are regular in worship participation.

Confirmation Dinner

The Confirmation Dinner is a night for the 2nd year Confirmation students, their parents, and mentors to celebrate all the Lord has done in and through the lives of the Confirmation students! On the Thursday evening before Confirmation Sunday from 6-8 pm, we will eat dinner together and then practice for Confirmation Sunday.

Rite of Confirmation

The Service of Confirmation will seek to guide each student to make meaningful, deliberate step forward in being a disciple of Jesus Christ. The Rite of Confirmation will take place on **the last Sunday in April**. After the Worship Service is over, a group picture will be taken, and then families will have the opportunity to take individual pictures at the altar.

Students with Learning Disabilities or an IEP/504 Plan

It is our desire for all students to succeed in Confirmation. Accommodations will be made for students with learning disabilities. These accommodations may include, but are not limited to: outcome modifications, independent study options or tutoring. Parents of students with learning disabilities should notify the program director to request a family advisor who will assist with program modifications. If a student has an IEP or 504 Plan, it is beneficial for us to have a copy so we can try to help the student succeed by using techniques already employed at school.

Safe Church Policy

At Redeemer we value making sure that your child is safe. If you would like to learn more about how we do this, please take the time to read through the Safe Church Policy at <https://www.redeemerlutheran.com/safe-church-policy> If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact Pastor Aaron as soon as possible.

Parents if you are willing to volunteer your time to help with Confirmation, you will need to read through the Safe Church Policy, complete a background check and take the Mandatory Reporter Training. To begin the process, please contact Pastor Aaron, who will send you the necessary information. We recognize this takes a time, but it's worth it to provide a safer community for our youth and adults!

Redeemer Contact Information

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