

# Christ Lutheran Church



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*The Rev. John G. Fleischmann, M.Div., Pastor*

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**CONFIRMATION PROGRAM**  
Fall 2017- Spring 2018

Dear Parents and Confirmands,

Greetings in the Name of Jesus our Lord!

Christ Lutheran Church begins its Fifty Seventh Year of Confirmation on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.  
Classes will no longer meet on Saturdays.

This class is intended for students entering the Seventh Grade through the Ninth Grade. It is a two year program (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) with Confirmands being Confirmed on Reformation Sunday of their Ninth Grade Year (this year, October 29 at the 11am Service).

It is important that you understand the requirements of this program and that you make every effort to fulfill them. This is in order to maintain the integrity of the program and provide you with information that is most important to your Spiritual growth.

### **The Priority of Confirmation**

The famed author, C.S. Lewis once stated, "*Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important.*" We take this quote to be absolutely true. And we also believe that Christianity is true- that God the Father loved us so much that He sent us Jesus to live, die and rise again that we might have life in Him now, and eternal life hereafter. Therefore, we feel that out of all of the instruction you/your child receive in school, this class is even more important.

Understanding this, in order to participate in Confirmation, the first requirement is that this class is a *Priority* for you and your child. That means it should become before other activities, sporting events, or all of the other demands placed on our children today. Occasional absences are certainly excusable, but pattern absences or absences over a long period of time due to other commitments disqualifies a child for this program. Please know this going into the program. You may certainly speak with the pastor if you have special circumstances; this is not to put undue pressure on you or your child, but to stress its priority and importance.

### **The Importance of Weekly Worship**

An old adage that comes to mind is, “If a farmer doesn’t farm, is he still a farmer?” The same can be asked about Christians who do not attend church regularly. Confirmation is intended to expand the faith of our children, not create it. True faith can only be received, strengthened and grow by regularly worshipping the Lord each Lord’s Day. With Confirmation Classes now on Sundays, your child is expected to attend the 8am worship prior to the class, or the 11am worship after the class. Attendance of Confirmands in worship is taken-not to be legalistic, but as a reminder that one cannot complete the Confirmation program without actively participating in worship. Parents are also encouraged to worship with their Confirmand. Not only does this set the example and obey the Lord’s Commandments, but attending will be uplifting and faith-building for you. If you’ve “slipped” in your attendance, there is no better time to come back and join us!

### **Reception of the Eucharist**

Additionally, students in Confirmation will participate in the training necessary to begin receiving Holy Communion. Some students have completed this prior to becoming a Confirmand. Those who have not will begin receiving on PALM SUNDAY, March 25 (not Maundy Thursday as in the past). Please mark this on your calendars now. It is also included on the Confirmation Schedule. Students who have already begun receiving will also attend these classes as a review of our belief and practice of Holy Communion as Lutherans.

### **Acolyte Program**

Each Confirmand is required to serve as an Acolyte. All Confirmands will be trained as acolytes and will be scheduled to serve at Sunday and Special Services. This not only allows you/your child to serve, but familiarizes him/her with the Liturgies of the Church.

### **Youth Group**

Not a requirement, but an invitation. We are reforming our youth program this year and it will be open to all youth from Confirmation age through High School. We invite all Confirmands to the excellent activities and times of fellowship.

While demanding, the Confirmation program is designed to assist in making you/your child’s faith in Jesus Christ the most important aspect of his/her life. Over the years, we have found that these requirements have worked, and have greatly assisted us in meeting the goal given by Jesus to “Make disciples of all nations.”

In Christ,



Pastor