

**CONFIRMATION
HANDBOOK
2007- 2008**

7th, 8th and 9th Grades

**URLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CANNON FALLS, MINNESOTA**

CONFIRMATION

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Christian learning is a life-long process.
2. Confirmation ministry is the responsibility of the entire Faith Community.
3. Confirmation ministry is committed to a holistic, integrated, liturgical, Biblical, confessional and servant-orientated process of learning. It will build on the strengths of learners rather than focus on the weaknesses.

DEFINITION:

Confirmation is a pastoral and educational ministry of the Church which helps the baptized child, through Word and Sacrament, to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in its mission.

PURPOSE:

The ministry of confirmation at Urland seeks to help young people to identify with the life and mission of the Church, as they confess faith in the Lord, Jesus Christ. Confirmation helps our young people to see themselves as the people of God carrying out the mission of the Church.

GOALS FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL

7th Grade (Pastor Dean Lundgren)

THE BIBLE

The student will learn how to use the Bible, see how they fit into the O.T. story, and have some knowledge of the history of God's people. The student will learn who Jesus Christ was, and what his message was. They will learn the overall message of the Holy Scriptures, and how it is a message for them.

SMALL CATECHISM (Part 1)

The student will begin to get an overview of Luther's Small Catechism. This year will give them the basics of the Lutheran faith by focusing on the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed.

SMALL CATECHISM (Part 2)

(This was taught last year and will be taught again 2008-2009)

The student will continue the overview of Luther's Small Catechism by focusing on the Lord's Prayer, Holy Baptism, Holy Communion and the Office of the Keys. This study of the Small Catechism will give the student the knowledge needed to comfortably confess their faith at his or her confirmation (Affirmation of Baptism). This is because they will understand 'what' they are confessing.

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE AND VALUES

The student will come to understand what it means to be a Christian in the world of today, and how that affects the way in which we live our daily lives.

MENTOR PROGRAM

The mentor program has been developed to form a relationship between adults and youth who are interested in keeping the Christian faith active and alive. This relationship is an effective tool in nourishing the faith in young Christians and broadening their base of Christian support in our congregations.

A mentor is an adult over the age of 18, who is willing to devote a minimum of one year (but hopefully for the entire 3-year confirmation program) to develop or strengthen a relationship in Christian faith with a member of the Urland Confirmation Class.

Youth and their mentors are required to attend the Mentor Nite Programs, which will be held on the first Wednesday of the following months: October, November, December, January and April.

SERVICE COMPONENT

We, as Christians, and as the Church of Jesus Christ, are called to serve our God and our neighbor. Each student is asked to complete at least 5 hours of service to the greater Church. This can be done by volunteering at our church or serving in our community in some way. There are many things that can be done to fulfill this requirement. Please check with either Pastor Sharot or Pastor Dean, to see if your service project idea qualifies and how many hours of credit it will be worth. They will be the sole judges of hours credit given for any service project. We want this to be a chance for the youth to explore their many gifts and find a way that they can serve God and neighbor in some new way. We are planning a great treat for those who complete more than 25 service hours. If you need ideas to fulfill this requirement, please see your confirmation teacher.

CONFIRMATION STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend class regularly and participate fully.
2. Attend Church regularly.
3. Take sermon notes (21 per confirmation year).
4. Complete a minimum of 5 hours of service to the work of the greater Church.
5. Attend all Lenten services (including Maundy Thursday and Good Friday).
6. Attend Mentor Nite programs.
7. Attend Youth Forum (strongly recommended).
8. Attend Bible Study (9th grade only. This is strongly recommended)
9. Pay a fee of \$20 to help offset the cost of providing confirmation materials for the year. The remainder of the cost will be picked up by the Christian Formation Committee. If there is a problem with this, please contact either Pastor Sharot or Pastor Dean.

DISCIPLINE

Confirmation classes are a step in Christian life. In order to have orderly classes with an atmosphere of learning, we ask you to follow these rules:

1. Attend regularly and on time.
2. Come prepared.
3. Respect others and be affirming of others.
4. Raise your hand if you wish to speak.
5. Do not bring food or beverages to class without prior approval.

If you have a concern or comment about any of these, please discuss it with your teacher, or with one of the pastors.

When you follow these rules, you will learn and you will allow others to learn. In this way, you will be honoring Christ.

What happens if the rules are broken? We have the following policy for dealing with a student who breaks the rules:

1. Inform the student of the needed behavior change.
2. If the inappropriate behavior continues, it will be discussed with the student after class.
3. If the inappropriate behavior continues through more than one class period, a conference between the student, their parent, and the teacher will be scheduled. Class time will be arranged with the disruptive student on an individual basis.

ATTENTION PARENTS:

If your son or daughter cannot attend class, please call their teacher (Pastor Sharot: 263-0438 or Pastor Dean: 263-2779). If this has not been done, and your child is absent, you will be called after class is dismissed.

CLASS SCHEDULE

(NOTE: When school is canceled, or lets out early, at Cannon Falls or Kenyon-Wanamingo due to weather, confirmation is canceled)

September

12 Orientation
19 first class
26 class

October

3 Mentor Nite and Supper
10 class
17 NO CLASS (MEA weekend)
24 class
31 NO CLASS

November

2 Mentor Nite trip to synagogue
7 NO CLASS (Lutefisk Dinner)
14 class
21 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)
28 class

December

5 Mentor Nite and Supper
12 class
19 class
26 NO CLASS (Christmas Break)

January

2 Mentor Nite and Supper
9 class
16 class
23 class
30 class

February

6 Worship--Ash Wednesday
13 Worship--Lent
20 Worship--Lent
27 Worship--Lent

March

5 Worship--Lent
12 Worship--Lent
20 Worship--Maundy Thursday
21 Worship--Good Friday
26 NO CLASS (Spring Break)

April

2 Mentor Nite and Supper
9 class
16 class
23 class
30 class

May

4 Confirmation Sunday