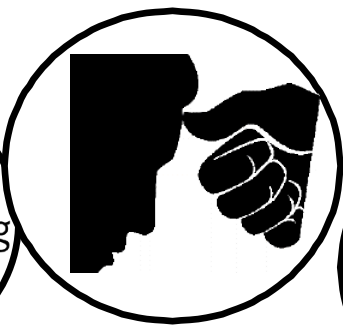


2008 - 09 Confirmation Handbook



Urland Lutheran Church
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Cannon Falls, MN 55009
Church: 507 263-5544
Email: Pastorsharot@urland.org
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Confirmation

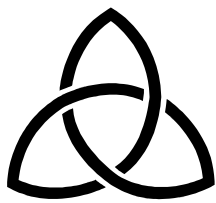


Introduction: In the Lutheran church it is common practice to baptize infants. Since most infants don't understand the blessings and responsibilities of this gift they have received, the parent/s and sponsors (Godparents) are charged to bring them up in the faith, helping them to live in the covenant of their baptism. The church, specifically the congregation, is also called to assist in nurturing the baptized in the faith.

It is beneficial in faith formation for the baptized to affirm their gifts of baptism and confirm that they want to continue as a member of the body of Christ, in the covenant of their baptism. *Affirmation of Baptism*, often called "Confirmation", serves this purpose. *Affirmation of baptism* is used as a sign of the beginning, increasing or renewing of one's participation in the life of the church, as well as being a significant life passage.¹

Purpose: Confirmation ministry assists the parent/s in fulfilling the promises they made at their child's baptism. The parents, as well as the sponsors, the pastor and the whole congregation work together to disciple the baptized in their faith.

Objective: To shepherd the students in the gifts of their baptism and Christian faith, so that they are prepared to affirm their baptism and confirm that they want to continue in that covenant.



3 Components of our Confirmation program

In order to prepare the students to *affirm their baptism* and *confirm their commitment* we use 3 learning components: Classroom, Mentoring and Service. Christian development doesn't just take place through lecture. It is also important for the students to see and experience faith in action. We are called to

...love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." Mark 12.30:

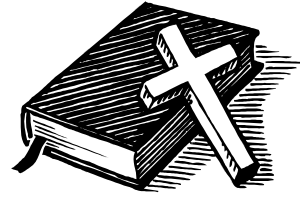
Through parental and mentor role models in addition to service projects we hope to develop the students head and heart in the faith.

Classroom 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.



8th/9th grade (Pastor Arthur Sharot)

The Small Catechism



The small catechism is one of the best tools for understanding the bible and the Christian faith. 8th and 9th grade students will study the small catechism concentrating on these areas: Ten Commandments, Holy Baptism, Holy Communion, Apostle's Creed, Lord's prayer and the power of the keys. This will give them a good understanding of the Lutherans Christian faith as it applies to life.

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 21, 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



CHRISTIAN SERVICE

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 Lundgren, 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. If you need ideas to fulfill this requirement, please see your confirmation teacher.

CONFIRMATION STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

1. **Attend class regularly and participate fully.**
 - a. **Show all work to parent/s for approval.**
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:

Following every confirmation session students will bring home materials for your approval. It is your responsibility to make sure they show you their work. This will help you to see what we are doing in class and how your student is progressing. The work they take home will either be a review of class time: class work, home work or some kind of evaluation tool.

If your son or daughter cannot attend class, please call their teacher (**Pastor Sharot: 263-0438** or **Pastor Lundgren: 263-2779**). If this has not been done, and your child is absent, you will be called after class is dismissed. **It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements to get the work they have missed.**

CLASS SCHEDULE

(NOTE: WHEN SCHOOL IS CANCELED, OR DISMISSED EARLY, AT CANNON FALLS OR KENYON-WANAMINGO
DUE TO WEATHER, CONFIRMATION IS CANCELED)

September

3 Orientation
10 first class
17 class
24 class

October

1 Mentor Nite & Supper
8 class
15 NO CLASS (MEA weekend)
22 class
29 class

November

5 NO CLASS (Lutefisk Dinner)
12 class
19 class
26 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)

December

3 Mentor Nite & Supper
10 class
17 class
24 NO CLASS (Christmas Break)
31 NO CLASS (Christmas Break)

January

7 Mentor Nite and Supper
14 class
21 class
28 class

February

4 Mentor Nite and Supper
11 class
18 class
25 Worship--Ash Wednesday

March

4 Worship--Lent
11 Worship--Lent
18 Worship--Lent
25 Worship--Lent

April

1 Worship--Lent
9 Worship--Maundy Thursday
10 Worship--Good Friday
15 class
22 class
29 class

May

4 Mentor Nite and Supper

