

# Confirmation Handbook



**2010-2011**

## What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is centered in **baptism**, providing students with two years to “Say Yes!” to the promises made in baptism. Confirmation is also an opportunity for students to build relationships with each other and with adults, talking about what faith means in daily life.

Students become more involved in the life of St. John as members of **the body of Christ** who are confirming the importance of their faith.

### *Instruction ~*

Students spend time learning through discussion and active participation, guided by **Scripture** and **Luther’s Small Catechism**.

Classes are taught by Pastor Lisa and a few other very cool people who rock at teaching.

Classes can be taken throughout the summer, during the school year, or a combination (some classes in the summer and some during the school year). If a student is unable to attend both sessions of a class in the summer, it is strongly advised they sign up for the fall/winter class.

We request that a parent notify the church if their child will be absent for a class. Homework will be provided for the child and parent to complete together and return for class credit.

### *Worship Notes ~*

Students are expected to worship regularly with an adult. *We believe when a student worships with an adult who is significant in his or her life, faith becomes more meaningful and more relevant.* To assist in their understanding of worship, we require that **ten worship notes** be completed by the end of the school year. Two must be from a “special” service (Ash Wednesday, Wednesday during Holy Week, Maundy Thursday or Good Friday). The notes are intended to focus the attention of each student on various aspects of worship life.

Notes need to be signed by a parent or guardian. The parent/guardian should also help the student understand the questions on the worship note form and discuss their written responses. Forms are available on the Confirmation bulletin board in the Commons area or on the website.

### *Mentor Groups ~*

Because we understand faith to be formed in relationships, students will be divided into **small groups of 4 - 6 youth** and a “mentor” (adult member of St. John). Mentor groups will meet once a month throughout the school year.

In addition to classroom work, students will participate in a service project and a church visit outside of St. John. They will also hear youth and adults talk about faith as a part of everyday life.

### *Opportunities For Putting Faith into Action*

Confirmation students are a part of the community of St. John by being actively involved in the ministry of the church, which is the body of Christ.

As **seventh graders** grow in their understanding of the church, they will “serve”(acolyte) during worship services on Sunday morning or Thursday evening. Serving times are scheduled, and students are asked to find their own replacement if needed. The church office should be notified of any changes. Seventh grade students may sign up for additional service options if they wish, however, it is not required.

As **eighth graders** grow in their faith lives, they are asked to become more involved in the ministries of St. John. Parents are encouraged to also be involved, either with their child or by participating in other areas. Students will sign up for three service options, listing them by preference (“1” being the first choice). Generally, items listed as the first and second preferences will be given. However, if several students sign up for the same option, it is possible that a third option will be considered.

*8<sup>th</sup> grade students are asked to choose three ministry areas in which to serve.*

### **Serving Opportunities for Students:**

- \* Help with Sunday School
- \* Help with Vacation Bible School June 21-24
- \* Usher
- \* Puppeteer
- \* Bake communion bread
- \* Sing in the senior choir
- \* Provide music for worship
- \* Play handbells
- \* Run the sound board for worship or special events
- \* Assist in the nursery
- \* Take pictures at events at church
- \* Help new members become acquainted with St. John

### **Serving Opportunities for Adults:**

- \* Teacher for regular Sunday School
- \* Lead Jr. High Sunday School
- \* Help at Jr. High overnight events
- \* Help at Sr. High overnight events
- \* Be a Jr. High mentor
- \* Altar Guild
- \* Lead the puppet group
- \* Visit homebound or hospitalized members

WEBSITE: You will receive a schedule in the mail for your student's ministry areas, but you can also quickly find most schedules on St. John's website if you click on "When Am I Scheduled?"

## ***Confirmation Calendar***

### **Summer Instruction**

Classes are held on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm on the following dates:

June 2 & 3 - Old Testament - section 1  
June 9 & 10 - Old Testament - section 2  
July 14 & 15 - New Testament - section 1  
July 21 & 22 - New Testament - section 2

### **Fall Instruction**

Classes are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 - 8:00 pm on the following dates:

Sept. 15, 22, 29 & Oct. 6 - Old Testament - section 1  
Oct. 27, Nov. 3, Dec. 1 & 8 - Old Testament - section 2  
Jan. 12, 19, 26, & Feb. 2 - New Testament - section 1  
Feb. 16, 23, Mar. 2 & 16 - New Testament - section 2

### **Mentor Groups**

Mentor groups are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:00 pm on the following dates:

Sept 1 - Meet your Mentor night!

September 8 ~ October 13 ~ November 17

December 15 - Fun Night!

January 5 ~ February 9 ~ March 23

April 6 ~ April 13

## ***Rehearsal & Rite of Confirmation***

*April 27, 2010*      *6:30 pm*

A rehearsal, group pictures and a reception will be held for confirmation students and parents.

*May 1, 2010*      *10:30 am*

Rite of Confirmation for 8<sup>th</sup> graders

## ***Additional Jr High activities***

These are examples of other exciting ways students can be involved in the livelihood of St. John. Watch for these events on the church calendar in the "Messenger" newsletter!

Jr High Sunday School  
Jr High Youth Group  
Youth Quake  
Family Mission trip

## ***Contact Us!***

Call or email us if you have concerns about your child's confirmation experience, questions about schedules or worship notes, or if there is anything else you might wonder regarding your student's life of faith, such as, "How do I get a hold of one of those serving robes so my student can wear it to school every day?"

Pastor Lisa Lewton      [lewton@stjohnelc.org](mailto:lewton@stjohnelc.org)

Jodeen Myers      [myers@stjohnelc.org](mailto:myers@stjohnelc.org)  
Program Secretary

St. John Lutheran Church  
146 6<sup>th</sup> Ave W  
Dickinson, ND 58601

701-225-6747

[www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org)