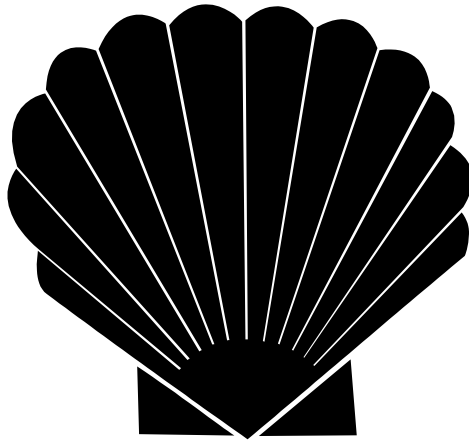


Saint Matthew Lutheran Church

Confirmation Ministry



“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.”

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

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At Saint Matthew Lutheran Church the confirmation process begins in 7th grade, continues through 8th grade and is completed in the first half of 9th grade. On Reformation Sunday (typically), all who have completed the program will “affirm their baptism” at the 11:00am service. The process includes classroom experience, field trips, independent study and a period of guided study with a mentor from within the congregation.

Please contact us if you have concerns or questions:

- Pastor Ingrid Wengert
for content questions wengert2@verizon.net
- Bill Lawrence
for administrative questions wal.stmatt@verizon.net

Seventh and Eighth Grade Basics

Confirmation has four components during the seventh & eighth grade years:

1. Learn in the classroom (Small Catechism component)
 - ⇒ Attend fall classes for six weeks & complete homework and final quiz (Wednesdays in September– October)
 - ⇒ Attend winter classes for six weeks & complete homework and final quiz (Wednesdays in January – February)
 - ⇒ Attend Sunday School 9:45 – 10:45am (September – May)

2. Learn outside of the classroom by experience in worship & the “wider” church
 - ⇒ Complete 9 sermon summaries per year
 - ⇒ Attend 2 Discovery Days per year – one Saturday morning in the fall and one Saturday morning in the spring

3. Serve the church and community
 - ⇒ Serve as Crucifer and Acolyte during worship (approx. 6 times per year)
 - ⇒ Complete 2 service projects (do something for a person or group without getting paid & complete a report)

4. Form community
 - ⇒ Attend community-building retreat

Ninth Grade Basics

Mentoring

Begins May in the 8th grade year

The mentoring process leans more heavily on a guided relationship with another Christian than it does on textbooks, classrooms and other traditional approaches to education. The program includes meeting and working through a structured process with an adult guide called a mentor, beginning with a potluck dinner to meet their mentor in May of 8th grade.

Letter to Council: How Will You Serve When Confirmed?

September 9th grade year

Confirmands write a letter to the Congregation Council and return it to the church office by the 1st Sunday in October, requesting to be confirmed and expressing how you will be active/serve in the congregation as a more mature member of its body. The Council officially approves students for Confirmation at their regular meeting on 3rd Monday. Former students have chosen to assist with feeding the hungry in various ways and to serve as communion assistants, crucifers, ushers, participants of youth group, greeters and helpers at events, such as waiting tables for dramas or babysitting.

Last Class

Day before Confirmation (Saturday)

Youth will meet for a last class, including helping to prepare the sanctuary for Confirmation and rehearsing. Youth will bring home the white capes to be washed and worn the next day for Confirmation.

Confirmation Day

Confirmation typically occurs on the last Sunday in October, which is Reformation Sunday.