

North Beaver Creek Confirmation Handbook

2015-2016

Our goal is:

To equip students with the skills, instincts, and tools that will help them in their life long journey exploring God's goodness and following Jesus.

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North Beaver Creek Lutheran Church

Confirmation Process

- **Identity:** Students will explore what it means to be a child of God, a forgiven sinner, a person claimed in baptism, a disciple, part of the Church (body of Christ, family of God, etc.), part of the priesthood of all believers, and a faithful steward. In other words students will explore what it means to be a Christian.
- **Bible:** Students will learn how to read and study the Bible. They will know the basic stories and overarching themes of the Bible, understand the Bible as an authoritative source, and begin to see themselves as part of the ongoing story.
- **Faith:** Students will grow in understanding about what we believe about God, ourselves, and the world. They will learn to ask and honor questions, to seek insight and understanding, and learn the basics of faith by studying the small catechism and Bible.
- **Faith and Life Connection:** Students will gain tools for ethical discernment - how to use faith as a lens to think about tough issues and decisions. They will see how their “spiritual gut” effects their life (intentionally or not).
- **Connections with God and Neighbor:** Students will pray, worship, serve, learn, teach, give and experience important parts of what it means to be a Christian: to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, your soul and mind” and to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37-29). They will try out ways to care for, grow in, and strengthen their relationship with God.

Confirmation Component Chart

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade
Sunday School Classes	Faith Statement Draft Class Attendance Weds. 4:30-6:00pm Memory Work 10 service hours 10 worship participation times 10 sermon response forms Faith Talk/Lenten Class Project	Faith Statement Final Draft Class Attendance Weds. 4:30-6:00pm Memory Work 10 service hours 10 worship participation times 10 sermon response forms Faith Talk/Lenten Class Project Faith Project	Read Faith Statement in Church Classes in September Make Stole Potluck rehearsal and project presentation (Sunday before Confirmation service).
	Confirmation Camp, Lifest (optional)	Lifest (optional)	Confirmation 1st Sunday in October

II. Overview

Class time:**Wednesdays 1.5 hr**

Claiming your faith and saying that being a Christian is important to you means learning more about what Christians believe - what you believe. Class time is one of the places where we will learn more about the Bible and explore what trusting in God means for our lives and the world around us. Like all the other parts of the process of confirming your faith, this is only the beginning of your life-long journey of faith.

You will do one extra sermon note for each class missed.

Confirmation Camp**7th grade**

During the summer between 7th and 8th grade, you will get to join your class and the pastor for a week at Sugar Creek Bible Camp. This is an opportunity to grow in your faith in a different setting, to meet other Christians your age and to bond as a group.

Faith Statement**2 drafts**

Before you are confirmed, you will be asked to share your faith statement with the congregation during worship (end of 8th grade or the beginning of 9th grade). This is a way for you to make “public profession of your faith.” Beginning in 6th grade you will work on part of your faith statement and each year you will improve your faith statement draft. In a way it will always be a draft because your understanding of faith will grow and change throughout your life.

Faith Talk**7th or 8th grade**

In 7th or 8th grade, you will receive a set of “conversations” to have with a confirmed member of our congregation. Usually done during Lent. You can pick your partner.

Project**9th grade**

You may begin work on your project at any time. The project is a way for you to be creative. You are to find a creative way to express something important to you about your faith. Some past ideas include woodwork, poetry, scrapbook, artwork, Bible character “baseball” cards, etc.

Sermon Responses**10 each year**

Sermons are an important part of worship - it is where God’s word is spoken through the pastor. Listening to sermons is a skill and can be difficult. Sermon responses help you to listen and gives the pastor valuable feedback. Sermon response forms are provided.

Please turn in all ten forms together.

Service Hours**10 hours each year**

Part of a healthy faith life is helping to make our communities a better place to live. Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to love God with all that you are and to love your neighbor as yourself. Sometimes it is difficult to find time to serve out neighbors; these service hours are meant to help you find the time.

NOTE: Service hours cannot be fulfilled by helping your immediate family (helping around the house is part of being family). You may choose to help people in your extended family that do not live with you.

Service hours can be done in a variety of ways; however, they are always unpaid hours. Some ideas include, but are not limited to, helping someone with outdoor work, assisting in Sunday School, babysitting, cleaning, visiting people in the nursing home, etc.

Worship Participation**10 worship service/year**

The goal is to learn more about worship, to experience worship leadership and to enrich and enliven our worship at North Beaver Creek. You may help at any of our worship times. Options are: altar guild, greeting, ushering, acolyting, reading, and doing special music.

You are responsible for keeping your own records!

Guidelines and Expectations

Individual Education Plans

Alternative learning plans can be made together with the parents, student and pastor. These conversations need to happen as soon as possible.

Behavior Expectations

Please refer to the covenant that we will make together during the confirmation orientation. When in doubt, let us treat each other with respect and care - as if we are someone God loves (because we are, each one of us, someone God loves!).

Parents may be asked to accompany you if you are unable to behave in a respectful manner. If that does not work, then an alternative confirmation process may be developed for and with you.

Personal Property

Please do not bring valuable items to confirmation. Everything you bring is your responsibility if it gets lost, broken or even stolen. Cell phones must be in your school bag and turned OFF during class.

Food

Light after school snacks may be provided as long as parents donate toward snack costs and students clean up after themselves.

Class List

Students

Claire Corcoran	525-4200; Dawn (608) 865-0061
Gage Instenes	608-525-7807; Nathan 608-317-0900
Emma Johnson	608-525-2604; Peggy 608-525-0070
Macy Lien	525-8010
Mara Quarne	Dwight-608-484-1446; Cryssa-608-484-1456
Sophie Thompson	608-488-7023, Kari 608-396-1042
Tyler Thompson	608-525-3410, Jayme 608-386-8571; David 608-792-3165
Ivey Vehrenkamp	608-525-7676, John 608-792-7930

Teachers

Dawn Corcoran	525-4200, cell (608) 865-0061
Patti Juszcak	525-7203
John Vehrenkamp	792-7930
Pastor Dave Bersagel	home (608) 783-1858; cell (608) 385-1501
Pastor Roger Grow	home (715) 284-9039; cell (715) 299-4147

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Service Hour Log

Date	What you did	Time spent	Adult's initial

* You need 10 hours each confirmation year. Remember helping out at home and paid work does not count!

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Worship Participation Log

Date	Activity	Worship time	Initial

* You need to help with 10 worship services each year. Sign up ahead of time to make sure your spot isn't taken!