

here we stand

9th Grade Confirmation Orientation
September 8, 2013
9:57



Welcome



Opening Prayer



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Questions/ Comments

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Schedule/Calendar/Weather/Photos



Schedule:

Congratulations, you're in the home stretch for Confirmation. Your schedule includes 6 required meetings (including the orientation) plus the Service of Confirmation. You will meet on **Sunday mornings** (NOT WEDNESDAY) during the 957 timeslot, which coincidentally starts at 9:57 a.m. and will end by 10:45. You will review what it means to be Christian, Lutheran, and will be preparing faith statements. If you attend all 6 classes you won't have homework! Classes begin on September 8. Confirmation will be at the 8:45 service on Sunday October 20. Pictures will be taken immediately following worship that morning, so don't rush off! There will be a celebration brunch for the whole church following the worship service.

*You are invited to attend any and all special events on the Confirmation calendar, especially the *Rachel Kurtz Concert*, *ValleyScare*, and *Moonlight Madness*.

*After you have been confirmed, please check out our fabulous high school youth program and events!



Calendar:

Please see attached calendar for specific dates, topics, and events.



Weather:

Occasionally we have a weather event that impacts Confirmation. Please do not try to attend if you do not feel safe. I will try to email or call you if our Sunday morning meeting is cancelled but you can also call the church office to double check.



Photos:

During the year some photos will be taken of the activities in which we participate. Some may include your child (per your consent, of course) and will be posted after the event on the St. James website. No names of individuals will be used. If you are interested in seeing the photos, you can simply go to the education page and look for a link to our Flickr account. If you have some great shots to share, email them to the church office.

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Expectations



It is expected that 9th grade Confirmation students ...

- *will diligently strive to seek the Lord
- *will respect and love one another as children of God
- *will attend all scheduled classes and events unless excused prior to the event
- *will regularly attend worship and 957
- *will have completed previous years' journal entries and Wildfire Events
- *will arrange with the Confirmation leader an alternative if unable to complete requirements



It is expected that all 9th grade Confirmation parents/guardians...

- *will diligently strive to seek the Lord
- *will respect and love one another as children of God
- *will regularly attend worship
- *will support and encourage their children
- *will take responsibility for the success of the program by volunteering according to leadership needs.

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Costs



The cost for educational materials (including robes, flowers, and brunch on Confirmation Day) and everything required in this packet will be covered by the \$70 per student registration fee. Ninth grade students are not required to attend events outside of Sunday mornings but they are welcome at everything. Concerts, especially, might be fun to attend. Optional events like ValleyScare and Moonlight Madness require extra funding.

Ultimate Reward (Goal) – Philippians 3:10-11



So why do we strive and suffer and accept the costs of the Confirmation program? We do this because we believe that what Jesus has to offer us is far more precious than anything we can offer in return. We know that our lives cost Jesus his life and out of our love for him and our desire to get close to him, we will study and grow in our faith together.

As Paul wrote to the believers in Philippi,

"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead."

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Confirmation Covenant



We at St. James feel honored to finish the process of bringing you into the adult membership of our congregation. We take very seriously the blessing and the responsibility of calling ourselves "Christian" and "Lutheran". We are excited to walk with you into the confirmation of your faith, the affirmation of your baptism, and to see what God is going to do through you.

Keep in mind that nobody "requires" this of you. It is a choice you and your parents/guardians are making to grow in your spiritual development. This is an exciting time not only for you but for your fellow classmates and adult leaders. Thank you for inviting us into your journey.

In order to use our time together as meaningfully as possible, it is important that we agree to certain criteria that will benefit individuals as well as the group. The following criteria will guide our confirmation program:

- Students and family will seek to grow closer to Christ.
- Students and family will worship together weekly with the Body of Christ.
- Parents/guardians will bring students to Sunday Confirmation meetings.
- Students will begin to assume certain leadership roles in the congregation including but not limited to: help in worship, help in the education of other students, help in the greater ministry of the congregation.
- In the event of an absence, contact will be made with the Confirmation leader prior to the absence and an alternative will be agreed upon.
- In every way, we will strive to build up one another in Christ.

If you agree to do your very best to support the program and strive to accomplish our ultimate goal together, please sign this covenant.

Student signature

Date

Parent/guardian signature

Date



Registration Form

Student's Name: _____

Grade: _____ School: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work: _____

Cell Phone 1: _____ Cell Phone 2: _____

Address: _____

*Student's Email _____

*Family Email _____

*Email will be the primary means of communication for non-emergency information. Please update St. James if your email address changes.

Is there anything I should know about your child that would enhance their learning experience?

(i.e. learning disabilities, strong visual learner, etc.)

There is a \$70 registration fee to cover both the education and worship celebration components of 9th grade Confirmation. If your family would like to request a scholarship, please contact Pastor Jill.

Paid _____ Check # _____



Medical Information

Participant: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Age: _____ Birth date: _____

Grade: _____ School: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Alternate Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Health Care Provider: _____

Insurance ID#: _____ Group #: _____

List any food, drug, or other allergies that your child has:

List any activity restrictions and/or medications that your child is on:

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____



Consent Form

September 2013– September 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian:

In keeping with St. James' Protect Our Children policy, it is necessary for us to have a signed Consent Form and Medical Information Form on file for each youth in grade 6 or older. This enables us to give older children and teen-agers greater independence than our policy permits younger children. Of course, we will still use discretion in planning youth activities and do everything in our power to keep your child safe and healthy. Please read the following carefully, sign and date.

CONSENT FOR ON-SITE ACTIVITIES

I, the undersigned parent/guardian of _____, a minor, consent to his/her participation in activities at St. James Lutheran Church. This includes regularly scheduled Youth & Family Ministry activities, such as Sunday School, Bible studies, music rehearsals, and Conformation classes, as well as non-scheduled activities, meetings, projects and events. I recognize that on occasion he/she might be alone with a staff member or adult volunteer, or in a group of youth under the supervision of one staff member or adult volunteer, and fully accept any attendant risks. I further agree to hold St. James, its employees and representatives blameless from any liability that might relate to the transportation of my child to or from St. James by myself or some other driver, or from my child choosing to walk or bike to or from St. James.

CONSENT FOR OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES

I authorize my child's participation in off-site activities as part of regular Youth & Family Ministry programming at St. James Lutheran Church. This includes permission for him/her to be transported to and from off-site activities in the company of other youth in a vehicle driven by an adult employee or volunteer. With the understanding that St. James' staff and volunteers will do everything in their power to keep my child safe from harm, I recognize that off-site activities might represent the risk of accidental injury or death to the participant, and agree to hold St. James, its employees and representatives blameless from all liability pursuant to situations beyond their control that do not result from negligence. In the case of emergency, if I cannot be contacted, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by St. James Lutheran Church to hospitalize, secure treatment for and order injection, anesthesia or surgery for my child. Finally, I agree to hold St. James, its employees and representatives blameless from any and all liability resulting from inappropriate conduct by the participant.

CONSENT FOR PHOTO PUBLICATIONS

Finally, I understand that unless I provide separate written notice, photos taken of my child at St. James Lutheran Church or at off-site church activities may be used for church-approved publications, including the church web-site. I further understand that St. James Lutheran Church will NOT publish my child's name in conjunction with photos in any St. James publication without obtaining my written authorization in advance.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____