

Welcome to First Lutheran Confirmation!



What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is a worship service in which you'll have a chance to tell the people around you what you believe. You'll hear the promises given to you when you were baptized, and you'll get to say, "Yes, I believe those promises belong to me!" That's why we call it the Service of Affirmation of Baptism; you affirm (or say yes to) your baptism and all it means.

Why do we do Confirmation anyway?

Five hundred years ago Martin Luther took a trip to the peasant country of Germany to find out how the church was doing out there. He wasn't pleased. People didn't even know the basics of the faith. So Martin decided to do something about it. He wrote the *Small Catechism* so parents could teach their kids about the faith and learn something themselves along the way.



"winking Martin Luther" from *The Lutheran Handbook*

All these years later, here you are on the receiving end of the *Small Catechism*, and we're still helping young people learn about their faith and strengthen their ties to the Church. We're not doing it just because we've always done it. We do Confirmation *because it's a good idea*.

We live in a crazy world that's full of hard choices. We're surrounded by demanding voices. Confirmation is a good idea because it can help you understand that world and sort out the voices. Most of all, it's a good idea because at Confirmation you can hear about the biggest choice of all: what God says about you in your baptism, "Yes! You're mine. And I'll never let you go!" That's a good thing to know and something you can depend on, too.

How does it all work?

This year we'll be studying Luther's *Small Catechism* on the 10 Commandments. When we're finished with the 10 Commandments in the spring, we'll finish up the year with a unit on making sense of Scripture.

- 1st Wednesday of the month, 6:00-8:00 PM: Dinner + Learning – parents attend with youth
- 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:00-8:09 PM: Dinner + Faith on the Go: service-oriented off-site activities – youth only (but parents are always welcome!)

FALL WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE – 6:00-8:00 PM

September 7	Dinner + Learning (with parents)
September 21	Dinner + Faith on the Go
October 5	Dinner + Learning (with parents)
October 19	Dinner + Faith on the Go
November 2	Dinner + Learning (with parents)
November 16	Dinner + Faith on the Go
December 7	Dinner + Midweek Advent Service
December 21	Dinner + Midweek Advent Service

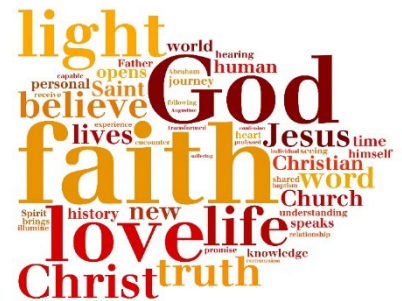
Worship Connection

- **Worship Notes:**

Why do we have to take worship notes? There's no secret here. The reason for worship notes is that Christians go to worship. If you're going to have a living faith, there's no way you can do that without hearing God's word in worship. The two go together like peanut butter and jelly. Taking worship notes makes sure you and your family hear God's promises about you.

How do I take worship notes? Simple! Just grab a blank sheet from the cabinet right outside of the sanctuary and answer the questions provided. Yes, you can get help from your parents. In fact, it's best if you discuss the service and sermon with them! You'll also be able to complete worship notes online/on your smart phone. We'll have a new format for the notes this year, and you'll see that at our first Wednesday together on Sept. 7

How many? By May 31, complete 12 Sunday worship notes



- **Help serve Communion at two worship services:**



Your Confirmation years are also a time to grow in helping with the worship service. This year, Confirmation youth will assist with serving Communion two times by the end of May at either the 8:15 or 10:45 service on Sunday mornings. We'll have you sign up in advance...you can even do that today.

Home Connection - 4 Key Faith Practices

milestonesministry.org/history-of-the-four-keys/

Four Key Faith Practices for Living One's Baptism

The common thread that nurtures faith formation within one's life journey are the Four Key Faith Practices. These essential faith practices articulate a foundational spirituality that shapes the work of congregations and the lives of Christians. Faith is formed through relationships, and those relationships engage in fundamental Christian practices. These basic faith practices are evident in Scripture, church history, and modern research. It is through such practices that faith is transmitted between the generations and over time.

Caring Conversations: These conversation starters provide meaningful reflection on biblical texts and our daily lives. It helps you bond with others on the journey of faith. It also helps you in the important task of talking about your Christian faith.

Devotions: Being devoted to God's word serves as the foundation for practicing the presence of God and blessing you with faith, hope, and love. Having a special time of day to do devotions increases the regularity of this important practice in your life.

Service: Christ tells us to serve others. By living the faith in love, we learn the value and joy of the Christian faith. Serving others reminds us of the breadth of the Kingdom of God and that our faith is personal but not private. Faith motivates us to serve the world in love.

Rituals and Traditions: Symbolic actions grounded in the Christian tradition throughout the year provide a beautiful and holistic way of experiencing the grace of God. As you practice rituals and traditions, continue to use the ones that fill you with peace, passion, meaning, and hope.

If school is canceled for weather, Confirmation will not be held either.

FAITH5 – A helpful tool for family faith time

FAITH5 (Faith Acts In The Home) is a simple, easy-to-implement faith practice, perfect for incorporating into your bedtime routine for 5-15 minutes a night. When done over time, FAITH5 carries the power to enrich communication, deepen understanding, aid sleep, and promote mental, physical and spiritual health. The five steps are:

SHARE your highs and lows: What was the best thing that happened to you today? And what was the worst?

READ a Bible verse or story: use one of the texts from Sunday (yes, you can use the same text all week long!) or use the suggestions in the “Taking Faith Home” inserts that appear in your bulletin each Sunday.

TALK about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows.

PRAY for one another’s highs and lows. A simple way to do this:

- 1) Thank and praise God for the highs.
- 2) Ask the Holy Spirit’s help with the lows.
- 3) Close in Jesus’ name.

BLESS one another: trace the sign of the cross on each other’s foreheads and say a blessing like, “You are a beloved child of God.”

More information: faithink.com/the-faith5-steps

