

# Confirmation (5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Confirmation is a very important part of our education program. Students begin confirmation in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and are confirmed in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes spend time learning and reviewing Old and New Testament Bible Stories, while 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders delve into Luther's Small Catechism.

Confirmation begins at 6:30 pm and concludes at 8:00 pm on Wednesday evenings during the school year. For more scheduling information, please contact the church office.

**Curriculum** . The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes will be using the 100 Bible Story Books from Concordia Publishing House. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes use a workbook called, Exploring Luther's Small Catechism.

## Student Responsibilities & Requirements:

**Attendance** . Students will be allowed 2 excused absences. If a student has any unexcused absences or more than 2 excused absences, they will be required to attend a make-up session with one of the pastors. Please notify the church office if your child is sick, or your child's teacher if it is a planned absence.

**Church & Sunday School Attendance** . Weekly attendance at Church and Sunday School is required.

**Sermon Summaries** . The number of sermon summaries required each year is dependent upon the grade. Sermon summaries should be written neatly on the sheets provided (in class or from the church greeters on Sunday mornings). Sermon summaries completed during Wednesday evening Lent and Advent services are counted as ½ since they are completed during class time.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade- 7 Sermon Summaries

6<sup>th</sup> Grade- 10 Sermon Summaries

7<sup>th</sup> Grade- 15 Sermon Summaries

8<sup>th</sup> Grade- 15 Sermon Summaries

**Advent & Lent** . During the seasons of Advent and Lent, students will have class from 6:30-6:55 pm and then attend the church service at 7:00 pm. Students who do not have parents present will sit together as a class with their small group leader/teacher.

**Servant Events** . Three servant events are required during the course of the year to be completed outside of class. Students will be given a list of servant event opportunities. Also, watch Life and Growth for additional servant events. All servant events for the 2010-2011 school year must be completed by April 27, 2011.

**Power Hour** . Power Hour is a time of fellowship and team building for the students. A snack will be provided. Power Hour will take place three times for each class throughout the year and are a required part of confirmation.

**Supplies Needed** . Students are responsible for bringing their supplies each week. They will need a notebook, their workbook, Luther's Small Catechism, Bible and a writing utensil.

**Memory Work** . Memory work is to be completed each week during confirmation. For a schedule of the memory work for each class, please contact the church office.

### **Expected Behavior** .

- Be prepared to have fun and learn
- Respect the adults and teachers in the room
- Listen to teachers and follow directions
- Accept responsibility for your behavior
- Be kind, polite and cooperative
- Treat other people and property appropriately and respectfully

## Parent Responsibilities

Parents are an **INTEGRAL PART** of Zion's Confirmation ministry. It is primarily the parents' responsibility to teach faith to their children. Since faith is the most precious treasure parents have to share with their children, they should be vitally interested and involved in their children's Confirmation instruction.

Statistics clearly demonstrate the need for the parental involvement. A study has shown:

1. If **BOTH** Mother and Father attend church regularly, 72% of their children remain faithful in attendance.
2. If **ONLY** Dad attends regularly, 55% remain faithful.
3. If **ONLY** Mom attends regularly, 15% remain faithful.
4. If **NEITHER** Mom or Dad attends regularly, only 6% remain faithful.

### Parents are expected to:

- Worship with their child(ren) each week
- Pray for their child as they go through confirmation
- Provide a Christ-Centered home where they practice God's love and forgiveness and demonstrate Christian values.
- Bring their child faithfully and punctually to class each week.
- Review assignments with their children regularly.

### Parents are encouraged to:

- Attend class with their child occasionally or regularly!
- Consult with the pastor or teacher from time to time about their child's progress.
- Have family devotions daily.

## Small Group Leader Responsibilities

- Help confirmation age students understand and review their lesson, create bonds between yourself and the children and serve as a good example for each child.
- Sit through the teachers' portion of class with the children.
- Participate in the classroom activities as appropriate.
- Class starts at 6:30 pm. Please contact group leader ASAP if you will be unable to attend class.
- During Advent and Lent, please attend worship with your small group.
- Keep record of attendance, memory work, servant events, etc.

## Important Confirmation Dates

### 7th Grade

- A dinner to recognize our 8th Confirmands will be held April 10, 2011 following the 10:45 am worship service. The 7th grade class and their parents are responsible for shopping, set-up, cooking, serving, and clean-up. A step-by-step guide for the meal is available in the church office.

### 8th Grade

- First Holy Communion for 8th grade Confirmation students is held on Reformation Sunday, October 31, 2010 at the 10:45 am worship service.
- A dinner to recognize our Confirmands will be held April 10, 2011 following the 10:45 am worship service. You and your family are encouraged to attend.
- Confirmation Sunday is held May 1, 2011. Public questioning will take place at 9:30 am in the sanctuary. Students will be confirmed at the 10:45 am worship service. Pictures will follow.

# HOW TO MEMORIZE

1. Read passage aloud **3** times.  
If you stumble, keep reading it until you can read it smoothly
2. Look over the passage.  
Do you understand what all the words mean?
3. Say the passage ALOUD in your own words.
4. Write the passage down on paper as it is found in the Bible (NIV). (Do this without looking at the Bible.)  
If you get stuck, check and continue writing...Do this **3** times (or until you can write the passage **3** times without looking at the Bible or at what you have written)
5. Say passage ALOUD **3** times for memory.  
**BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF!** Don't take any short-cuts. If you get stuck any place along the line, go back to #1 and start entire process over again.
6. REVIEW passages you have already learned.  
If you have trouble saying them, start process over again.
7. REVIEW...review...review...always say it ALOUD.  
Make sure each word is exactly the way it is in the Bible.
8. Before coming to class, go over entire memory work with parent.