

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

“Confirmation ministry is a pastoral and educational ministry of the church that helps the baptized through Word and Sacrament to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in its mission.” (Joint Declaration, 1969)

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Confirmation Ministry at Grace focuses on Worship, Prayer, Bible Study, Catechism, Relationships, Fun, Fellowship, and Serving. It is important to note that participation and building relationships are as important as the information learned. Parental support and involvement are essential to the success of the program.

SOME NOTEWORTHY QUOTES

“Jesus never ‘educated’ people into the kingdom of God.” (Rich Melheim - FAITH INKubators)

“Kids catch the faith from those around them.” (Paul Hill - Director of Wartburg Seminary Youth and Family Ministry Certification Program)

“The passing on of the faith is much too important a task to be left in the hands of those who are paid to do it.” (Pastor April Larson)

“It’s a sin to bore a kid.” (Young Life)

Our goal is to make disciples of Jesus Christ and have lots of fun along the way!

Confirmation ministry at Grace includes three important components:

Sunday School – Pre-school through 10th Grade
Together in Faith – Pre-school through 6th Grade
Faith & Discipleship – 3rd Grade through 11th Grade

TOGETHER IN FAITH (TIF)

(See Sunday school handbook for scheduled times)

<u>Pre-school:</u>	Prayer
<u>Kindergarten:</u>	Forgiveness
<u>First Grade:</u>	The Lord's Prayer
<u>Second Grade:</u>	10 Commandments
<u>Third Grade:</u>	Books of the Bible
<u>Fourth Grade:</u>	Apostles' Creed
<u>Fifth Grade:</u>	Martin Luther
<u>Sixth Grade:</u>	Confession & Forgiveness

FAITH & DISCIPLESHIP

Third Grade Enrollment Service & Receive Bibles

Tuesday, September 20, 6 p.m. – Community Room

Parent/Guardian/Student Orientation

Wednesday, September 28 -OR- Sunday, October 2

Enrollment & Receive Bibles in worship

Learning: Lutheran Worship.

Parent/Student classes: 5:30 PM

Sunday, February 12 – Exploring the Church Year

Sunday, February 26 – Liturgy

Worship Participation: Lead Narrative Worship Service

Wednesday, February 29 -OR- Sunday, March 4

Serving: Sharpening pencils, straightening Bibles & Hymnals,
marking lessons in Lectern Bible.

Fourth Grade Devotional Bible Reading

Learning: Devotional Readings in the Gospel of Mark
January 03-30. Pastor visits the home of each student to
discuss personal and family devotions using selected
readings from the Gospel of Mark.

Worship Participation: Lead congregation in Responsive
Reading of the Psalm
Wednesday, January 18 -OR- Sunday, January 22

Serving: Deliver Devotional Booklets to Shut-ins.

Fifth Grade First Communion

Learning: Holy Communion
Parent/Student classes: 6:00 PM
Sunday, March 4 & Sunday, March 11

Worship Participation: Celebration of First Communion
Sunday, March 18

Serving: Help Altar Guild set up for Holy Communion at least
one time.

Memory Work: Luther's Small Catechism - Sacrament of Holy
Communion & Meanings

Sixth Grade Prayer

Learning: Prayer and the Lord's Prayer.
Overnight Retreat @ Grace
January 6 & 7

Worship Participation: Lead "Prayers of the People" in worship
Sunday, January 8 OR Wednesday, January 11

Serving: - Prayer partners with retired members of the
congregation.
- Serve as Acolytes September through May.

Memory Work: Luther's Small Catechism - Lord's Prayer & Meanings

Seventh Grade through Tenth Grade

Parent/Guardian/Student Orientation

Tuesday, September 20, 7 p.m. – Community Room

OR

Wednesday, September 21, 7:30 p.m. – Community Room

4-year rotational curriculum

2011-2012 Apostles' Creed

2012-2013 New Testament

2013-2014 Old Testament

2014-2015 10 Commandments

Wednesday Night Worship & Small Groups

(October through December)

Meal: 6:00 PM in Community Room

Worship/Lesson: 6:30 PM in Sanctuary

Small Groups: 7:30 PM in assigned rooms

Done: 8:00 PM

Learning: For 2011-2012 Apostles' Creed

Serving: 7th Grade: - Acolyte September through May
- Cleaning Nursery Quarterly

8th Grade: - Usher two times
- Serve in Nursery two times
- Help with Spring Clean-up of the Church Property or Camp Vermillion

9th Grade: - Be Greeter two times
- Serve in Nursery two times
- Work in Volunteer capacity in some "unrelated to Grace" activity for which you are neither receiving credit elsewhere, nor being paid. (Six hours)

- Attend and take notes of two Ministry Team Meetings

10th Grade: - Help prepare and serve dinner for 11th grade confirmands, their families and mentors (5:30 PM Sunday, October 9)
- Help with Food Shelf or with one of Grace's Ministry Teams (Six hours)
- Attend one Parish Planning Council meeting—take and turn in notes on meeting.

Sermon Notes: 7th & 8th Grade

15 each year

5 – from Lenten evening services

10 – from other worship services

(Sundays, non-confirmation Wednesdays, weddings, funerals, or other worship occasions)

Retreats:

7th & 8th Grade April 20-21 @ Grace

2011-2012 Life of Jesus

2012-2013 Sacraments

9th & 10th Grade January 20-22 (off-site)

2011-2012 Martin Luther

2012-2013 Living My Faith

Youth Gatherings: (*encouraged but not required*)

Middle School Youth Gathering (Grades 6-9)

November 19-20, 2011

At Cragun's in Brainerd

Cardia Deo Sr. High Youth Gathering (Grades 9-12)

March 2-4, 2012

At Big Sandy Camp

Eleventh Grade Intern/Mentor Program

Mentors: Prayerfully selected by student interns in consultation with parents

Learning: Five Areas for Discussion

- Job/vocation
- Congregation
- Family
- Social life
- Discipleship and congregational participation

Timeline: April through November

April – Parent/Intern Orientation & Mentors Selected

May – Mentor training

August – Mentor & Interns meet for Spiritual Gifts Inventory

August-September – Interns and mentors meet 4 times

October

- Interns meet with pastor
- Interns meet with mentor for congregational participation planning
- Dinner for Interns/Family/Mentors
- Rite of Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation is the last Sunday in October

November – Interns meet with pastor

Dates to Remember:

October 9, 2011 10:45 AM – Presented to congregation in worship
5:30 PM – Dinner and Wrap-up for Interns, Family and Mentors

October 29, 2011 9:00 AM – Rehearsal in sanctuary

October 30, 2011 10:45 AM – Rite of Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation