



July 2025

Dear families of confirmation age youth,

We pray that your summer is filled with relaxation, sun, and growth in the Lord!!! It's probably crazy to think that in one month school will be starting, which means that confirmation at Our Savior is just around the corner. **We ask that you take some time to discuss this opportunity with your child and pray together about if your child is ready to begin this step in their faith walk.**

Confirmation Ministry at Our Savior Lutheran Church is a 2-year ministry designed for youth entering 7th grade and older. Youth can begin in 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The purpose of Confirmation at Our Savior Lutheran Church is to equip youth in developing a lifelong relationship with Christ, be able to identify with the mission of the Church, and build relationships with the leaders, peers, and family.

After the 2 and ½ years of this ministry, your child, **if they choose to,** will have the opportunity to participate in the Rite of Confirmation in the fall of their 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Many in the church have misunderstood the Rite of Confirmation. It sometimes has been seen as the beginning of church membership or as a rite of passage into fuller church membership. It also has been seen as the time when "I can now participate in the Lord's Supper" or "I can now stop going to Sunday School." It should be remembered that the Rite of Confirmation falls under the realm of tradition. God does not divinely command it for the Church, but it is useful for teaching and equipping. Confirmation is just one part of what is to be a lifelong spiritual journey and definitely not graduation. Confirmands are instructed in the Christian faith, so they are able to go out and share what they have learned to their friends, family, and even strangers; to publicly confess their faith. **Please discuss the purpose of confirmation with your child before registering them.**

*The Rite of Confirmation itself is both:*(1) The culmination of a time of instruction, helping Christians identify with the life and mission of the Christian church. (2) A time to affirm or confess one's faith in Jesus that was spoken for them at their baptism.

The 2-year ministry plan rotates from year to year following curriculum. The following is the two-year rotation of topics, each youth will go through ...

2025-2026- Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer

2026-2027- Apostles Creed, Baptism, Communion

Fall 2027 – Next Steps, Personal Interviews, and Testimonies

To best meet the purpose of this ministry and reach youth and parents, our structure involves both youth and parental involvement. The parents and youth will join as a unified group for 1 hour and 15 minutes once a week looking into God's Word and studying the Small Catechism in small groups. **Parents, your role is to be a role model for your youth by actively participating in the studies.** Main teaching will be led by the Pastors and Director of Christian Education (DCE). Confirmation will be offered Wednesday evenings 6-7:15pm in the Worship Center. The first half of class the youth and parents will join together to study God's Word, then the remaining part of class the youth will join

together in small groups led by two guides, while the parents continue topical Bible study on the night's lesson. The small groups are led by adult and youth guides who are there to help guide discussion for the youth. These youth mentors give 45 min. each week to volunteer their time to teach these youth. We ask that youth are respectful during these times; if they do not follow guidelines, they will join their parents during the parent bible study.

The requirements we have are to best meet the ministry needs of our youth and families in order to best point you to Christ. We require daily journaling (can be done as a family), weekly family devotions, 85% attendance of classes, encourage regular attendance in worship, memorization of the Apostles Creed and Lord's Prayer, and for youth to do a Bible Story Charades assignment over Lent in the spring. We also require that youth participate in at least three Service projects; one with their small group, one with the church, and one as a family. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year youth will need to have a Bible and Luther's Small Catechism. All youth are to have one parent, grandparent, or mentor attend with them each week. We will also provide babysitting for families with younger children during this time. The 3<sup>rd</sup> year confirmands will have the additional requirements due in the fall of their Confirmation year: present personal faith testimonies, "What does this mean to me" paper, and participate in an individual meeting with Pastors and the DCE's. These requirements are so that the congregation can see how God has been working in their lives.

**All registration forms are online;** the form is at OURSAV.ORG, under Ministries Youth, as well as on the Church Center App. But before registering your child, we ask that you take time to pray about this ministry opportunity. No one is requiring your child to attend confirmation or start this year. We offer confirmation for 7<sup>th</sup> graders and OLDER so if you believe your child should wait a year please do so. We do expect youth to know basic Bible knowledge, such as finding books in the Bible (Old and New Testament), and major Bible stories (Creation, Noah, Moses, Jesus' Life, Disciples, etc.) before beginning confirmation. We will also go over some of these during the two years. These years are designed for youth and parents to dig deep into God's Word and grow in their faith as they learn about the doctrine of the LCMS church.

Please register your child *no later than August 11<sup>th</sup>* online so that we can plan accordingly. You MUST register so that we can plan accordingly for youth small groups and large group set up!! Thank you for your partnership in the ministry as we point people to Christ!!! We will start classes on **September 10 at 6-7:15pm.**

His Grace,



Pastor Lee Weander  
Senior Pastor

Christine Ekberg  
Director of Ministry Development

Brandon Heath (starting 8/18)  
Director of Youth Ministries

LeeW@oursav.org

ChristineE@oursav.org

BrandonH@oursav.org