

Basic Understandings

It is our goal, that at the end of their Confirmation experience, students will stand in front of their friends and family with graceful confidence, to declare boldly, *'I believe in Jesus Christ- God's only Son, my Lord.'*

To meet this goal, the Confirmation Program at Easter is designed to offer students life-changing experiences in:

- studying the Bible & Lutheran theology
- growing in relationship with God and one another
- gathering as a Christian community at church, at camp, and in the world
- exploring various ways of participating in and growing God's church in the wide world

Mentor Groups

Mentor groups affirm youth in their faith-growth and encourage authentic and significant relationships. Adult mentors accompany five or six youth through the whole confirmation journey. Mentors serve by being a nurturing presence to our young people; by praying, listening, facilitating faith-conversations, and sharing their own stories.

Enrollment & Questions

Further questions about Easter's confirmation program can be directed to Jennifer Pelouquin at jpeloquin@easter.org or 651-452-3680.

The Service & Growth Component to Confirmation Ministry

We encourage our confirmation students to practice their faith wherever they are; in church, at home, in school, on the field, etc. When students understand that their faith has a real place in the world- their lives will be forever changed.

As a part of Easter's confirmation program, students are required to complete 40 hours of service and 25 hours of growth, as outlined in the program, prior to being confirmed. For details, see the "Confirmation Service and Growth" brochure (see yellow box).

Service hours involve participating in faith-focused service in the church and with the church, for the sake of acting as the body of Christ.

Growth hours involve activities and exercises that strengthen a student's faith, their relationship with God, and their deepening theological understanding.



For more details, please see the "Confirmation Service & Growth" brochure available at either site or online at www.easter.org (Learn/Confirmation).

8/2011

Confirmation Ministries



Easter Lutheran Church
Eagan, Minnesota

**Grow in faith and carry on
the work of Jesus Christ through:**
*relationships
growth
service*

*A faith formation process
toward the goal of
Affirmation of Baptism
through the
Rite of Confirmation.*

*To Grow in Faith and
Carry on the Work of Jesus Christ*

First things First, It is Essential that...

- Families worship together, regularly.
- Parents support their child's faith growth - in conversation and as a living example.
- Students participate to the best of their ability in all activities and lessons.
- Students attend class sessions and all retreats. If conflicts with the confirmation program arise, make-up arrangements need to be made with the pastoral staff and mentors.

Easter's Confirmation Curriculum:

The Seventh Grade Year: Survey of the Bible

This course is taught in either a one-week session at camp in August OR on specified Wednesday nights during the school year (which also includes a weekend retreat in September).

Students will read large portions of Scripture, learning the major themes of the Bible- and searching for God within the words and stories. Sections of both the Old Testament and the New Testament will be studied.

The Eighth Grade Year: Luther & His Small Catechism

This course is taught in either a one-week session at camp in August OR on specified Wednesday nights during the school year (which also includes a weekend retreat in September).

Students will learn about Martin Luther, the Reformation, and will study Luther's Small Catechism- a summary of Lutheran doctrine focusing especially on the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Sacraments, and Confession & Forgiveness.

The Ninth Grade Year Applying Faith to My Real World

This course is taught in three units on specified Wednesday nights during the school year and one weekend-retreat in April.

Unit A: Comparing Faith Traditions

Students and mentors visit a variety of worship settings- designed to expose the students to a variety of Christian and Jewish traditions and worship forms.

Unit B: Death, Dying, & Grief

Students will explore Christian expressions of grief that come both from death and other losses. Students are asked to reflect on their own losses.

Unit C: Relationship Retreat

On this two-day retreat, students explore the Bible and their faith traditions in regards to sexuality, faith, and values in relationships.

The Tenth Grade Year "Continuing to grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ"

Completion of Service & Growth Hours

Required hours must be completed by the first week of September.

Confirmation - My Faith

Students reflect on their faith and Easter's Confirmation Program- as students prepare to publicly proclaim, "This I believe." Each student will compose their own written statement of faith.

My Calling

The final Wednesday night sessions are to assist students in discovering the spiritual gifts they've been created with- and in their ability to hear God's callings for them.

The Rite of Confirmation/ Affirmation of Baptism

This worship service is conducted on Reformation weekend and All Saints Weekend. It is preceded by a rehearsal on Saturday.

This service marks the high point of formal Confirmation Study for students who have completed Easter's Confirmation program. It is not, however, the end of faith formation. The process of confirmation simply teaches students how to begin asking deep faith questions living an active, faithful Christian life.



Fees:

The Confirmation Ministry is supported through fees and the general fund. Fees cover direct expenses of the program. For more information about fees and registration, contact the church office.