

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

2018 - 2019

GRADES
6 - 10



easter.org | 651-452-3680
Eagan MN

WELCOME

Welcome to the Confirmation process at Easter Lutheran Church. Confirmation is not the beginning or the ending of your faith journey. Nor is it an add-on to an already busy life. We believe it is a core part of participating in the life of the church.

It is a significant step on the lifelong journey of growing deeper in faith and learning how to carry on the work of Jesus Christ.

Your journey begins at baptism as your parents commit to raise you in a Christian home. It continues as the Children's ministry partners with your parents to offer age-appropriate education through JAM, JAM Sessions with a Pastor, Summer Camps (previously VBS), and various camps and activities.

Confirmation is your Middle School and early high school experience. Here you will receive the essential instruction in the core of our Christian Faith and how to live it out in everyday life.

You will connect with the High school ministry during your 9th grade year and, after Confirmation, will have an ongoing opportunity to grow deeper in faith and carry on Jesus' work with your high school peers and the larger congregation of growing adults.

In light of this vision, we felt it was necessary to include 6th grade in the official confirmation process. 6th grade is the natural beginning point for Middle School in our culture, so it makes sense to begin the Confirmation process at this point.



PASTOR STEVE

EXPECTATIONS

A Shared Collaboration

- 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 opportunities are available - check with the pastoral staff and mentors.

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.

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 at 651-452-3680.

Registration

Go to easter.org (Youth & Family / Confirmation) to register and pay online.

BREAKING IT DOWN

Grade Level	6th - 8th Grade Year A	6th - 8th Grade Year B	6th - 8th Grade Year C	9th Grade	10th Grade The Confirmation Ceremony in October
Focus of Ministry	The Middle School Years are the time for students to receive training in the core components of our faith. This is the foundation of knowledge for a lifetime of spiritual growth.			As students enter high school the lessons connect what we learned in Middle School to the reality of life as an adult.	The Confirmation ceremony is a rite of passage where students become full adult members of the congregation
Topic	Luther's Small Catechism	The Old Testament	The New Testament	Finding My Calling How to handle Grief, Death, and Loss My Neighbor's Faith Healthy Relationships	The Confirmation Ceremony and Commencement into the adult life of the church
Time Commitment	There are two tracks available to Middle School Students: 1. Camp Option: Students will attend Camp Wapo for one week in August to receive the bulk of the education. Small groups will meet once per month for COGS (Confirmation Opportunity for Growth and Service) during the school year. 2. Wednesday Night Option: Students will attend a weekend retreat in September, then Worship and Education every Wednesday night during the school year.			Small Groups will meet together for four, two-week series on Sunday afternoons throughout the year. (a total of eight sessions) The final session includes a weekend retreat in April.	There will be one orientation meeting in the fall to prepare for the Confirmation Ceremony at the end of October.

SERVICE &

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

Service & Growth Hours

Students will complete 40 hours of service and 25 hours of growth prior to being confirmed. This is part of the Confirmation program.

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.

Service Hours

Because opportunities can change, the best way to find current options is to check the Easter website. The **Serve** menu option will show you ways that you can serve within Worship at either site, serve at Easter for various outreach events under Hunger, Education, Homelessness and Immersion options, or, in some cases, serve off-site at an Easter partner.

A list of service opportunities are available at easter.org (Serve).

Upon completion of your time, fill out a Service Form, available at easter.org (Youth & Family / Confirmation / Service & Growth) and turn it in to your mentor.

GROWTH

Growth Opportunities

There are many opportunities to participate in a Growth activity. A current list is available at easter.org (Youth & Family / Confirmation / Service & Growth).

Upon completion of your time, fill out a Growth Form, available at easter.org (Youth & Family / Confirmation / Service & Growth) and turn it in to your mentor.

Please consult with your mentor, a pastor, or youth leader regarding appropriate activities before you offer your time, especially if your activity is not listed on the website.

