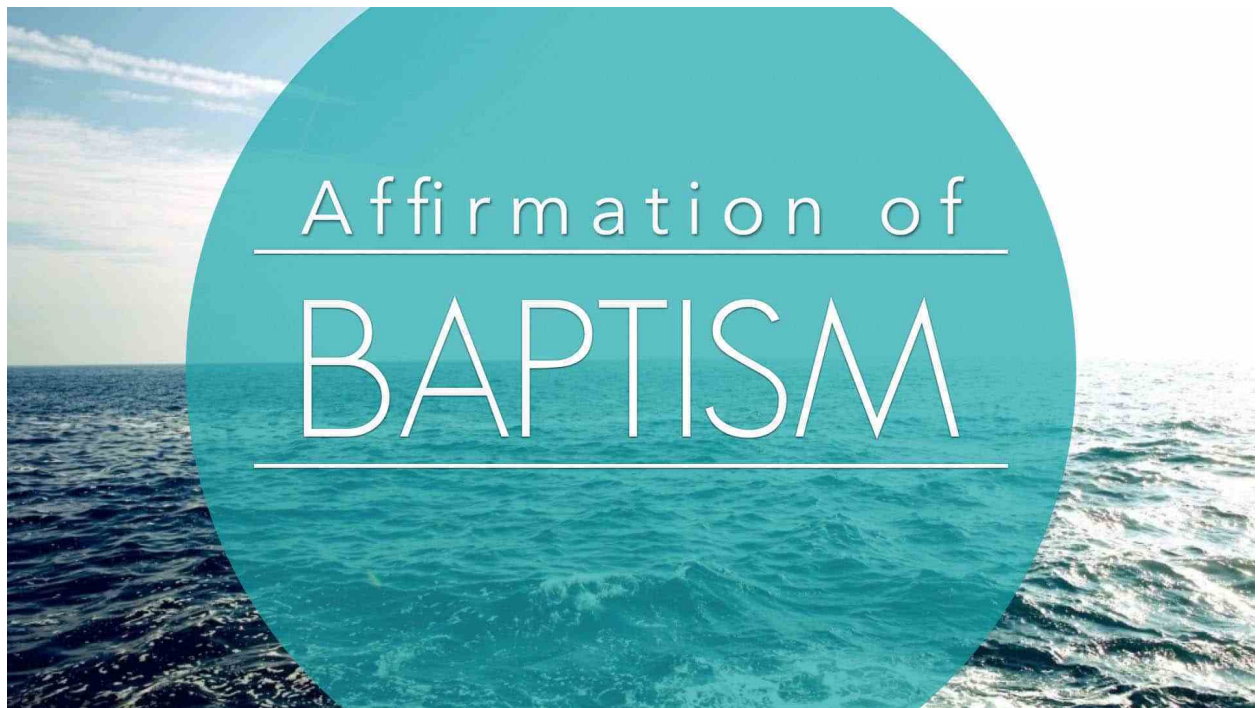


WELCOME ST. JOHN  
CONFIRMATION  
FAMILIES

2020-2021

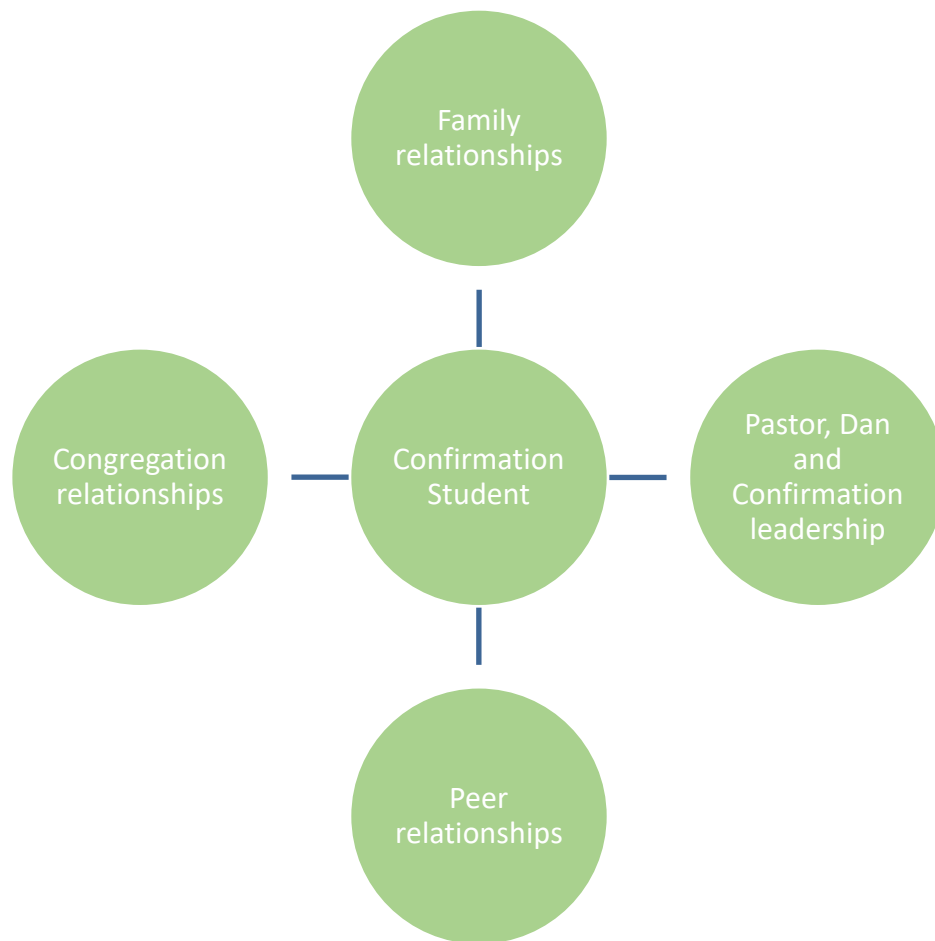
# Confirmation



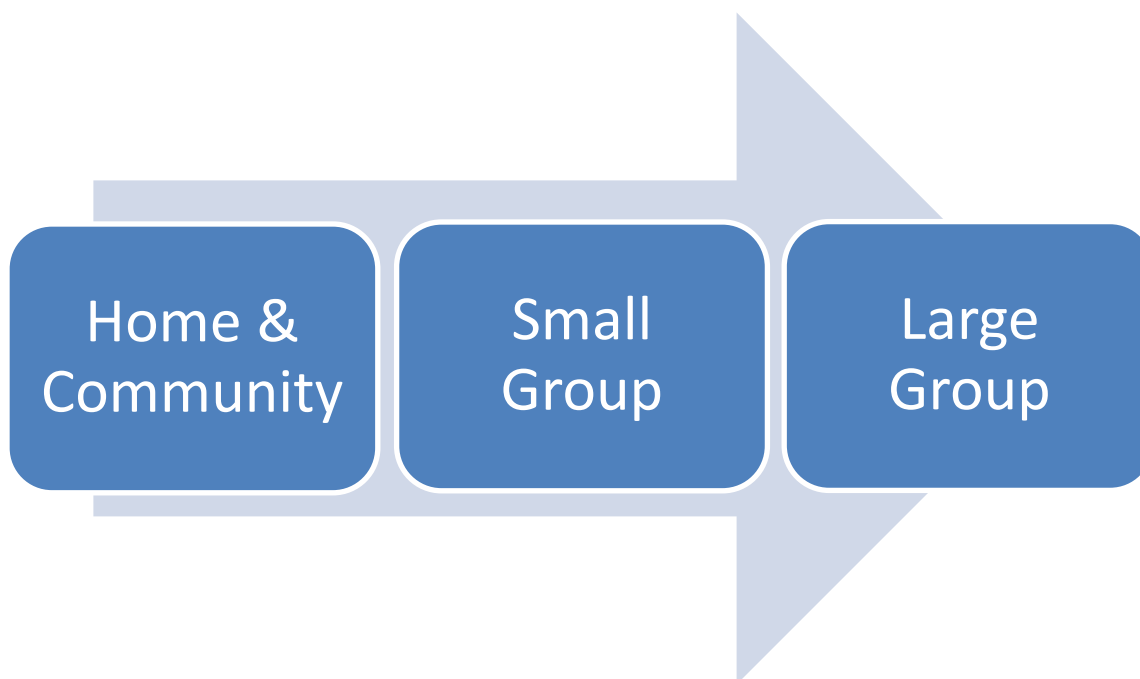
confirmation  
&  
baptism are  
connected

# Confirmation is a pastoral

and educational ministry of St. John Lutheran Church which helps our students identify with the Christian faith community & participate more fully in its mission. It is a continuation of their life-long faith formation.

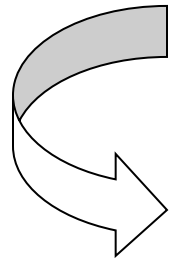


"So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us"--Thessalonians 2:8



Learners will actively--

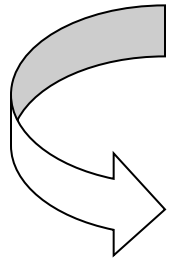
- ❖ Engage their faith through prayer, Bible reading, learning, and service to others.
- ❖ Know of and experience God's gift of saving grace through Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Experience God's love and acceptance.
- ❖ Participate in the practices of faith: worshiping, reading & studying the Bible, praying, evangelizing {invite!}, practicing stewardship joyfully, serving Christ by serving others, living a life that gives honor & praise to Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Experience that the Triune God---Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is loving, forgiving & active in the daily lives of His people.



## **Moving from why to how...**

Each time confirmation meets, there is a Theme Event [large group] to introduce the day's lesson.

- Each student will participate in the large group experience where they will sense being a part of a larger whole, get to know caring adults in the congregation, be presented with the lesson in a way that addresses the multiple learning styles of kids.
- Lay teachers participate in the large group time and lead the small group learning time.
- Expectations for attendance, worship, service, memory work, worship notes & service hours are a part of the ministry. They are included to enhance the Wednesday night learning. They provide avenues for faith formation.



## **Moving to when...beginning in November 4<sup>th</sup> this year**

**5:45pm—6:45pm—learning event**

**7:00-7:30pm—worship event**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the Month-----7<sup>th</sup> Grade

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month-----8<sup>th</sup> Grade

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month-----9<sup>th</sup> Grade

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month-----at home [worship or service]



## Moving to what...

### **Experience—the heart stuff**

You are uniquely precious to God

You have been created for a purpose

Jesus died and was raised again for you and for the sake of the world

Jesus loves you and Jesus loves others and expects you to love and serve others as well

You belong in this faith community

Your pastor & other caring adults care about you as a person and also want share faith with you because we experience it as vital to life

### **Educational—the head & heart stuff**

Jesus is your Savior and Lord

*Scripture—not just ‘about’ it, but how to use it in life, how to wrestle with it, experience how others find it important*

Lutheran Traditions and Confessions/Catechism

Prayer

Law and Gospel—the Living Word of God, engages us today

Grace/Mean of Grace (Word,Sacraments,Relationships)

Sanctification...Witness & Service...

Additional Information	TBD & Flexibility Space & GRACE	
Sermon Notes-regular weeks	30 total [10 each year] AND	
<b>Sermon Notes</b> Special weeks	6 total	Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Advent, Pentecost, Reformation, All Saints
Exploring other faiths	On line sessions	Web-based this year
Service Events	45 AoK total [15 each year]	Acts of Kindness
Serving your church	5 hours each year [TBD after we are back in the sanctuary]	TBD <i>Audio, tech, music, usher, read, office, Sunday School, VBS, outdoor, Preschool Family night,</i>
Worship Events	Sundays 10 am Wednesday 7 pm	Confirmation students and families are expected to attend worship regularly as a part of the commitment to growing in faith and discipleship
Faith & Family Fellowship Meals	<i>We will not be able to schedule until later/unknown due to COVID situation</i>	Parents & Students

Faith Mentor		8 <sup>th</sup> Grade during Lent
Faith Packet		9 <sup>th</sup> Grade prior to Affirmation of Baptism
Snacks/Food	<i>None at this time/will re-evaluate as year goes on [due to COVID]</i>	Parents

Bibles Each 7<sup>th</sup> grade student will be giving a Study Bible. These bibles will be kept here at church through out the 3 year program. During large group and small group time, students will be using the bible they receive to write notes, highlight, mark passages, etc. When they are confirmed, students take home a bible full of useful notes!

Cell Phones the use of cellphones and other electronics such as iPods, tablets, etc. are not allowed during confirmation time, unless a teacher calls for their use. If a student is using these devices during class time, the device will be collected for the evening and returned to the student at the end of the evening.

Registration Fee There are, of course, costs associated with such a broad ministry program. SJLC is self-supporting, entirely from donations given by members and friends of the church. SJLC supports Confirmation as a budgeted program, however, there are costs that go above and beyond those funds. Therefore, we ask for an annual fee of \$35 per student. We do not want the fee to be a deterrent for any family, if you need a grant to cover the fee, please let us know. If you have more than one student in the program at the same time, the maximum will be \$50.

Attendance Class attendance is a must for your student. Every attempt should also be made to worship *with* your student either on



Sunday mornings [10 AM] or Wednesday nights at 7 PM[on confirmation nights].

Weather Policy If the Elk River School District #728 lets school out early or cancels after school activities due to weather on a Wednesday, no confirmation class or worship will be held that night.

Transportation Transportation is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Small groups may, from time to time, decide to do a service project or social event together. Parents may wish to car-pool, but should never expect a small group leader to provide transportation.

Baptism and Communion If your child has not been baptized, please talk with Pastor Bahe, or email her at [revkbahe@green-church.org](mailto:revkbahe@green-church.org), so we can make arrangements for baptism. Students need to be baptized prior to making the Affirmation of their Baptism[ie-Confirmation Sunday, their 3<sup>rd</sup> year]. If your child has not had First Communion, let us know and we will work with you to plan for your child's communion instruction.

Parent/Student Covenant To participate in the confirmation program at SJLC, every parent/guardian and every student must agree to and sign the Confirmation Covenant. A covenant is an agreement and promise. Part of your child's learning process will be navigating the expectations and rewards of being a part of a caring, faith-filled community. Our goal is to create a positive, loving, safe, and respectful environment for everyone. Your support of this covenant is essential in making it successful.

# Confirmation Covenant

*A signed copy of this covenant must be on record for your child to participate in the Confirmation program at St. John Lutheran Church. Thank you.*

St. John Lutheran Church seeks to create a positive, loving, safe, respectful and fun environment for learning, building relationships, and growing in faith through the confirmation ministry. Creating clear expectations provides a way for this positive environment to emerge, and when necessary, outlines a process for follow-up if expectations are not followed. These expectations apply to students, parents, and volunteers involved in the ministry and helps to shape the kind of behavior that will be most beneficial to all.

## **CORE EXPECTATIONS**

- Treating others in a manner consistent with our Christian faith.
- Showing respect and a cooperative attitude.
- No physical intimidation is ever tolerated.
- No teasing, rudeness, or talking over others (this includes talking while others are sharing during small group time, as well as talking while the presenter is speaking during large group gatherings.) –
- Following the direction of adult leaders.
- Respecting the rights and property of others.
- Abstaining from the use of inappropriate language.
- Abstaining from the use of cell phones and music players during class/groups/events unless specifically asked to by an adult leader.
- Abstaining from the use of drugs and alcohol before or during any confirmation activities/events.

## **CONSEQUENCES**

If expectations are not met by the student the following consequences will follow-

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Conversation with leader and/or pastor.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: The student will be asked to take the rest of the evening off and a parent/guardian will be notified for transportation.

*[covenant continued]*

- If a student is asked to leave a class/event twice during the year, a parent/guardian will be invited to a conference with the student and pastor.
- **Cell Phones and Electronics will be confiscated at the 1<sup>st</sup> Offense. They will be returned at dismissal.**

Pastor, staff, and all volunteers will lead by example. In speech, we will not gossip or swear. In life, we will do what pleases God. In Christian love, we will care about others. In faith, we will pray and trust God. In honor, we will choose what is right. The discipline policy has been established to help keep a safe, respectful and positive environment for everyone. Jesus said, *"Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses."* (Mark 11:25) The spirit of these expectations and the consequences is to address discipline concerns as they arise, but also to approach one another with a spirit of Christian love, understanding, and grace.

It is a privilege to walk alongside of you and your son or daughter as you continue to support their faith formation.

The home is the primary source for faith formation and St. John Lutheran Church seeks to support parents in this responsibility with the confirmation ministry, worship, and building relationships with you.

Worship and service are central to how we teach our children to grow in their faith. Participation in the confirmation program brings with it the expectation of regular participation in worship and acts of service by the student and their family.



Jesus said: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.

-Matthew 28:19-20

And, lo, I am with you always”

## Contact Information

Dan Hackbarth: [daniel.hackbarth@isd15.org](mailto:daniel.hackbarth@isd15.org)

Pastor Kari Bahe: [revkbahe@green-church.org](mailto:revkbahe@green-church.org)

Church Office: [churchoffice@green-church.org](mailto:churchoffice@green-church.org)

Church Phone: 763-856-4561

[www.green-church.org](http://www.green-church.org)

*This booklet is provided as a general outline, the program or schedule may change. Please sign up for REMIND and please keep the church office updated on any phone or email changes you make. Also---please check our website for updated information. [www.green-church.org](http://www.green-church.org)*