

Confirmation Ministry Information

Confirmation Ministry at St. Paul Lutheran is an important part of our overall ministry to middle school students. Through this 3-year program, students will learn about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by attending class sessions, developing relationships, serving one another, and exercising their faith in new and exciting ways.



Why Confirmation?

- We are baptized “in the Name of our God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.” The purpose of Confirmation is to teach students how to “live out” their baptism. We want to focus on the “What does this mean?” question as it applies to daily life.
- We want students to learn about and experience life in a local congregation. The “Body of Christ”, the church, being made up of believers gathers together for mutual support and encouragement, as well as pooling resources and gifts to be used in the work of the kingdom. Students will begin to see themselves as a larger and more distinct part of this fellowship.
- We desire Confirmation to be a “step” in the walk of faith-helping students transition from childhood into adulthood. This faith walk is truly a lifelong journey made up of stones that direct one’s path. Parents and students together can proceed through a time of intense change seeking and knowing God’s will and applying it to everyday life.

Highlights of Confirmation Ministry

- Biblical Values
- Church Fellowship Involvement
- Parent Support & Involvement
- Small Group Mentors
- Peer Relationships
- Service Opportunities
- Discipleship
- Equip young learners

St. Paul Lutheran Youth Ministry exists to “Connect People to Christ”. As youth are connected to God they will grow in their faith in and knowledge of God. As faith and knowledge grow youth will live as committed followers of Jesus Christ in their lifestyle, service, and personal witness.

Wednesday Night Schedule

6:00 pm-7:30 pm

6:00pm	Meet in Worship Center for a large group opening
6:15pm	Small group learning time in classrooms
7:30pm	Dismiss

*during Lent classes conclude at 7:05pm and families are encouraged to attend worship together.

Confirmation Requirements

Worship

- Christian families should worship together and at minimum families should plan on attending worship services
 - 26 times per year Sept 1st- Aug 31st
 - 20 for 8th grade students Sept 1st through May 1st.
- Only in-person participation in a worship service will be counted for this requirement.
- **Recording worship attendance**
 - When attending St. Paul- please sign in the red friendship book
 - Only 1 worship service per week is able to be recorded (unless there is a special holiday/Lent)
 - When attending another church please turn in a bulletin from that church with YOUR NAME/DATE ON IT.
 - We encourage you to continue to be connected to YOUR church, but worship services from other locations will be accepted, but something must be turned in to the church drop box.

Class Attendance

- We want your child in class and participating! Each student will be allowed two unexcused absences per half year; two in the fall and two in the spring. If a student is absent for any reason the student and parent/guardian together should complete the scheduled confirmation workbook lesson that is assigned.
- All lessons need to be completed by the time of the end-of-year review in April.

Service to church

- 6th graders- Light Candles and carry in Cross
- 7th graders- Help with Altar Guild
- 8th graders- Usher
- See binder for written instructions- training will take place in September
- YOU get to set your own schedule! Head to our website- <https://stpaulfalls.com/youth-young-adult/#activities>
Please follow the instructions on the sign-up link.

Communication is Key!

Please be in communication with your child's confirmation mentor as the year progresses. If you need help or assistance with anything, please be sure to reach out to the Director of Youth Ministry. We do understand that 'life happens'. If your child needs to switch to confirmation at home or to one-on-one instruction please speak with Director of Youth Ministry so that we can walk alongside your family! We are in this together!

Family Time @ Home

- See the front calendar for items to look up at home. These are set up as a SHORT activity you can do with your family at home to prepare for the evening lesson.

Testing and My Faith Activity

- 3-4 written tests will take place during the year, the schedule can be found in the front of your binder- Bible and catechisms can be used on the test.
- 1 My Faith Activity will take place at each grade level
- End-of-year written final questions come from the previous written tests, so save your tests!
- Verbal exam questions come from questions in the back of your binder, these same questions are covered in weekly family time at home.
- If a student misses a test or fails a test, they are responsible to schedule a make-up time as soon as possible.
- Please speak with the Director of Youth Ministry if your child has a learning challenge and needs alternate testing options!

Other Notes

Confirmation Course of Study

6th Grade	History of the Bible / First Communion
7th Grade	Small Catechism
8th Grade	Apologetics

Respect

How students conduct themselves is a vital component of this program. We believe that our students represent their Lord, Family, St. Paul Lutheran, and themselves. We expect our students to act respectfully to their teachers, fellow students, and others – in class and outside of class.

Small Groups

The foundation of the program is based on a small group format. Groups of 4-12 students will meet with an adult mentor throughout the school year to cover the curriculum. Please respect the time and efforts of the volunteer confirmation mentors.

Fellowship Activities

Small groups are encouraged to meet outside of church for activities together. Watch for information from their mentors. Confirmands are welcome and encouraged to participate in youth ministry activities at St Paul. This includes youth group on Sunday evenings, service projects, special events, and family events. Watch weekly news for upcoming events. There is also a handout in the front of your binders with information regarding this fall. <https://stpaulfalls.com/youth-young-adult/>

Registration/Medical Form

Online registration/medical forms should be completed by the start of class.

Confirmation Fee and Agreement

There is a small \$25 fee to cover some of the cost of confirmation, if your family needs assistance with this fee please see the Director of Youth Ministry. Separate retreat payments are collected closer to the event. Checks can be made out to St. Paul Lutheran Church; cash is also accepted.

The signed agreement is on the next page. We want everyone to walk together in this confirmation journey, so we ask all students and parents to sign the agreement acknowledging the requirements and expectations for all students. This ministry does take commitment and involvement on behalf of the student and his/her parents.

Cancelations Due to Weather

If the Sheboygan Falls School District is closed for the day or cancels after-school activities due to weather, there will be no confirmation that day. Please use your best judgment when traveling. Mass text message will be sent if class were to be canceled due to snow.

2024-2025 school year
Confirmation Agreement
To be turned in with \$25 payment!

Confirmation Expectation Agreement

We value your participation and look forward to the faith development of your child during confirmation this year!

Along with my \$25 deposit, I also understand the need for and agree to the requirements of the Confirmation Ministry here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. *(Parent please initial each statement)*

_____ Participation in Worship *(6th & 7th grade students 26 times per year, 8th grade students 20 times per year.)*

_____ Weekly Class Participation *(not to exceed 4 missed classes during the school year)*

_____ Service to the Church *(candles/cross, altar guild, usher)*

By signing this agreement, you have read and understand the requirements for participation in the Confirmation Ministry here at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sheboygan Falls, WI as explained on page 2.

_____ Student's Name (please print) _____ Student Grade

_____ Parent(s) Signature

_____ Date

Please enclose this signed document with payment to the church office by 3rd week of September. Please see the provided envelope.

Failure to meet requirements

The Confirmation Program at St. Paul Lutheran is one that students choose to walk through, with parental guidance. The church urges students in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades to attend. It is our belief that Worship and Confirmation can and will help shape and develop individuals in their faith walk. Because this program is a choice, there are some basic policies and guidelines students are expected to meet. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in one of three options. 1. A meeting with the Pastor to determine eligibility for the Rite of Confirmation. 2. A repeat of the year of Confirmation. 3. Families may also choose a Christian educational approach to the Confirmation program rather than a preparation for the Rite of Confirmation.