

Grades 6-9

Family of Christ Confirmation Program Overview

2011-2012

6th – 8th Grade

Wednesday evenings • 6:30-8:00 pm

- Over 3 years, students learn about the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the Small Catechism.
- At 6:30, 6th-8th graders gather in one big group in the sanctuary for music, worship and a teaching time by our staff in a variety of media formats. Then students move to small groups (based on grade & gender) for discussion, fellowship, and prayer.
- **Again this year! All** 6th-8th graders participate in a winter retreat January 14-15 at Luther Crest Bible Camp.

9th Grade

Wednesday evenings • 6:30-8:00 pm

- 9th graders continue to meet weekly either in their small groups in homes or at church.
- Additional information regarding curriculum and meeting locations will be mailed in early September
- Faith in Action Projects allow students to connect their faith with their daily lives—further details will be available at Confirmation Kickoff
- Several large group-building activities will be scheduled throughout the year
- Option to help lead at the winter retreat in January.
- **9th graders will be confirmed April 21/22, 2012**

Faithful active Christian parents raising faithful active Christian children...

Parents: WE NEED YOU!

First and foremost, we ask parents:

- To make Confirmation attendance a weekly priority
- To faithfully and regularly attend worship together
- To pray together and discuss faith
- To pray for each other and for small group members and leaders
- To discuss together weekly what is being taught in Confirmation

Studies show that parents are the primary factor in developing faith in children. FoC partners with parents by providing support and education for parents, and by providing opportunities for parents to be involved in our Confirmation program.

Hot Topics!

“Hot Topics” bring all 6th—9th graders together and are devoted to current issues relevant to the lives of our confirmation students. Special speakers will lead one of our regular Wednesday large group sessions and help facilitate small group discussion around such hot topics as internet use, bullying, suicide, relationships and sexuality, drugs and alcohol, etc. We invite parents to join us for large group anytime, but especially on these Hot Topic evenings.

Making Disciples Making a Difference

We are commissioned in our baptism to make a difference as disciples, to use the God-given gifts we are given. Students are asked to participate in the worship and community life of our congregation. We also ask students to explore ways that they use their financial gifts as well. At the beginning of the year, we will talk about partnering with an organization providing for those in need and we will take a weekly offering to donate to that cause.

All About Me

Students: Please take time to fill out this form completely so that your Lifeguides can get to know you better and are able to contact to you directly. This form will help them know what's special about you, what your gifts and interests are, and activities that you're involved in that they might be able to attend.

Called to Serve for Students & Parents

Students: One of the goals of our Confirmation program is to help students make connections between having faith (believing in something) and living out that faith in their daily lives. That will be one of the goals of our weekly teaching and small group time. In addition, we ask students to live out their faith in service to our church community. A number of opportunities are offered on the enclosed student portion of the "Called to Serve" form. Students are asked to sign up for at least one opportunity on this page. (options: acolyte, read, usher, greet, help with hospitality, Lux Aeterna (youth worship band), teach Sunday school, bake communion bread)

Parents: Studies show that parents are the primary factor in developing faith in children. The quality of our confirmation ministry requires participation by all parents. We ask parents to partner with us in the faith formation of our students by participating in at least one of the opportunities listed in the parent portion of the "Called to Serve" form.

Lux Aeterna 6th-9th Grade Contemporary

Lux Aeterna sings anthems and helps lead worship throughout the school year. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 8:00-8:30 pm. Singers and instrumentalists welcome.

40:3 10th-12th Grade Contemporary

40:3 rehearses Wednesdays 5:30-6:00 pm. They help lead worship and sing anthems throughout the school year. This is a student-led group. Singers and instrumentalists welcome.

Small Group Lifeguides

Adults and senior high students lead all small groups. These guides lead small group discussions, lead and encourage prayer in their small groups, coordinate and lead the service opportunities on Make a Difference Days, and most importantly, build strong, trusting relationships that strengthen the connections our students have with our church family. Please indicate your willingness to serve as a small group Lifeguard on the parent portion of the "Called to Serve" form.

Worship Notes

Worship notes encourage youth to see connections between worship and their own lives as faith matures. It's an important tool in faith formation —

Students: 15 worship notes each school year. We reward students who have met goals throughout the year. The notes are green and found in the big kiosk in the narthex.

Parents: Please encourage your son or daughter in this weekly habit and remember we'd like you to add something at the bottom of the worship note.

Communication – Web, Print and Voice Mail

familyofchristonline.com always has up-to-date information about confirmation events and activities. Also read our regular church newsletter. Direct questions by phone (952-934-5659) or e-mail (...@familyofchristonline.com) to:

Pastor Kristie (kristie@... or extension 12)

Leann Thompson, Director of Faith Formation (leann@... or extension 24)

Lindsey Ruhland, Minister to Youth & Families (lindsey@... or extension 30)

Andrea Jeitz, Interim Minister of Music (andrea@... Or extension 23)

Weather-related Cancellations

If school is closed (or students sent home early) in District 112/Eastern Carver County for weather-related reasons, there will be no class that afternoon/evening (even if it's nice and sunny at 4:00). We will post cancellations on our church home page at familyofchristonline.com.