

St. Paul Mount Prospect



Confirmation Handbook 2018 – 19

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VALUE ONE - WORSHIP

Saint Paul Lutheran Church desires to have families' faithful in worship.

Psalm 95:6 "Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker."



God's word shows us over and over the benefits of being faithful in worship and study, and the pitfalls when we stray from the fellowship of faith. In order to encourage families to worship together, committing to regular attendance, which will include accountability for worship attendance through tracking of attendance through church office records, special youth worship event at retreats.

VALUE TWO - INSTRUCTION



Saint Paul Lutheran Church desires to have families learn the basics of Lutheran doctrine.

1 Peter 3:15 "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

9th Grade

Students in 9th grade review materials from the catechism and prepare to make a public sharing of their faith. They meet on Sunday mornings during September and October, beginning **September 16 at 11:05a.m.** with Dari Hartmann in the youth room located in the church's lower level. They will write their personal faith essay which will be read in the Luther Hall on **Sunday, October 21 at 6:30 p.m.** This will be open to families and congregation members, and will end with a brief rehearsal on how confirmation Sunday will work. Confirmation will be celebrated on **Sunday, October 28 at 10:00 a.m.**

6th GRADE

6th graders explore the major stories of the Bible in chronological order, learning and improving Bible skills. Our textbook is the Bible and My Journey In Faith. During the months of February and March first Communion Preparation classes will be held, with First Communion, celebrated during **on Maundy Thursday April 18th of Holy Week** Classes for the year are held in the upper level of the school building on Sunday mornings at 9:05 a.m. Communion preparation with the students and parents together in Luther Hall in the church's lower level, with a repeat class on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. for families unable to attend together on Sundays. See the complete course schedule. Memory work, service hours, faithful attendance in worship, weekly family discussion questions, and encouragement to participate in Jr. High fellowship events are part of this program.



7th & 8th GRADE

Parents are asked to take an active role in confirmation instruction, following God's directives in His word. In the Bible parents instructed in their homes, as well the teaching that happened in synagogues. Proverbs 1:3 "Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching." Initially in the Lutheran church, parents were to instruct their children in their homes, using Martin Luther's Small

Catechism as their source. Saint Paul asks parents to attend education sessions with their students, and to assist their child in completing worksheets provided. Using the Bible and the Catechism, students should be able to complete any worksheet.

Parent and teen meetings will be made up of lecture and small group discussions, based on Catechism and Bible. They meet in the lower level of the church in Luther Hall. Each year we will cover 3 of the six chief parts of doctrine, as set out for us in Luther's Catechism, using the Bible as our chief source book. This is year our cycle will be covering The Ten Commandments, Holy Baptism and Confession and Absolution. Families unable to meet during the Sunday morning session may attend the repeat session on Wednesday evenings. "In Between Bible Studies," are topical Bible study sessions designed to help students continue to grow in faith and knowledge. There is no repeat class for these studies, and parents are not required to attend these sessions.

Testing for Knowledge

In order to insure that the students have the answers they will need when asked to explain what they believe, all material covered in each unit will be tested at the end of the unit. Students will be tested during the education sessions. See schedule of sessions for exact testing dates.



Memory Work

Proverbs 7:1, 3b "My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you...write them on the tablet of your heart." God commanded us to have His words in our heart and mind, and that is why we include memory work with our course of study.

Parents are responsible to see that students complete all memory work assignments, which will be given to the students at their first session. See the attached memory work sheets for all assignments. Parents would benefit as well to learn memory work assignments; make memorization of Scripture a family project. (Remember kids learn from your example!)

VALUE THREE - SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Saint Paul Lutheran Church desires to have families serving God and others faithfully.

James 2:14, 8b "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? I will show you my faith by what I do."

Students are encouraged to use their God-given talents in service to His church and to other people. In order to help hold students accountable, they will be required to complete a total of 25 hours of service over the course of one year. Projects that they can do include, but aren't limited to:



Drama and music for worship or events, set up for events, cleaning at church, Acolyte, Nursery, Altar Guild, ushering, Vacation Bible School, or random acts of kindness (i.e. helping elderly person).

Students are encouraged to explore how God is gifted them, so each person should do at least two different kinds of service. A service report form is available online, or from the DCE. Students should write the date and time of service, what they did, and have an adult supervisor sign as their witness. These forms will be returned by the date shown on the form to the DCE. Parents are asked to be responsible and proactive in

helping their student complete service hours.

VALUE FOUR - FELLOWSHIP



Saint Paul Lutheran Church desires to have families enjoy the Christian family God gives us in our church.

Psalm 133:1 “How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!”

One of the goals held in this program is to help students build strong Christian friendships. Youth ministry events are part of the overall program. Students are encouraged to choose at least 3 youth ministry events to participate in over the course of the year.

VALUE FIVE - MENTORING

Saint Paul Lutheran Church desires to have families learn from those who have gone before us.

Proverbs 13:18 “He who walks with the wise grows wise.”

Mentoring during the confirmation process happens with parents and church staff as we work through the materials. Make sure that you take opportunities to discuss with your student what is being covered, and help them to apply the Bible and catechism teachings to their everyday lives.

