

Greetings

I am so excited to write to you to share with you about confirmation classes. Confirmation classes are an excellent tool of the church to build into our youth an understanding of some foundational teachings of our church body. For the last ten plus years I have either taught confirmation or co-taught it with my former Senior Pastors. I have had classes as small as 1 student and as large as 13 students. Typically confirmation classes are taught in Lutheran Brethren Churches when students are somewhere in between grades 6 and 9. Confirmation programs are typically two years in length though some churches have added a 3rd year which serves more of as a pre-confirmation class. Inside our Lutheran Brethren body there are three different curriculums that pastors typically follow. The two constants in all of those curriculums are Luther's Small Catechism and the Bible.

I carry a bias in which material I have always taught from as one of my former pastors wrote one of the curriculums called "Confirm IT!". It divides the confirmation material into 6 sections taught over two years.

- Section #1 – God and the Bible
- Section #2 – The 10 Commandments
- Section #3 – The Apostles Creed
- Section #4 – The Lords Prayer
- Section #5 – The Sacraments
- Section #6 – Living it

The hope of the curriculum is to be both a learning experience in which students gain insights and understandings into God's word and as well personal as it challenges them to own their faith for themselves.

Last year we held our first ever year of classes with two students. We had a great year. They will both be returning for their second year which could be the first year for some other students. I am writing to ask you if you would have any interest in having your children join our class. If you are interested, would you tell me if you have a preference of Sunday mornings at 9 am for class or if Wednesday's at 6:15 pm is better.

There are 26 lessons in each year's material. Each week students will be expected to do their weekly assignment, do some memorization and be prepared for a quiz. The quiz is really one of the best parts of this. It's a PowerPoint game show much like Jeopardy.

Last year we worked through the first half of the curriculum. This year we will start in year two and if any students choose to start next year, then next year they will complete the cycle by doing the year one material. At the end of each year we will have confirmation Sunday where the students come before the church and share what they have learned and share what God is doing in their life.

Our first week of class will be the week of September 13th and for the first week of class I would like at least 1 parent in attendance so they can get a feel of what it is expected of each week.

I will need to order our curriculum and enough copies for each student by the first of September so if you would like to register your child for confirmation classes, please let me know before August ends. If there are any additional questions that I can answer, please let me know. I look forward to this great teaching opportunity.

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