

Confirmation Handbook 2023-2024



**“Feelings come and feelings go,
And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God--
Naught else is worth believing.**

**Though all my heart should feel condemned
For want of some sweet token,
There is One greater than my heart
Whose Word cannot be broken.**

**I'll trust in God's unchanging Word
Till soul and body sever,
For, though all things shall pass away,
HIS WORD SHALL STAND FOREVER!”
— Martin Luther**

Why Confirmation?

Because I said so.

Because I had to.

To grow closer to God.

To learn about the Christian faith.

These are all good reasons, *well reasons*, why people attend confirmation.

Why are you doing it?

Resurrection believes that a relationship with Jesus Christ is crucial for a way of life that includes hope, joy, comfort and peace. This relationship can be formed at anytime, but we take advantage of this time in the youth's lives to concentrate learning and growing in faith.

Here is what Confirmation is and is not at Resurrection Lutheran.

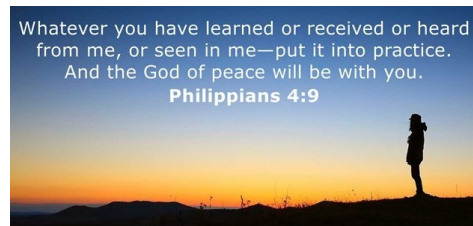
Confirmation is not about our salvation, whether we go to heaven or not, whether we are forgiven or loved. All of those things are established at our Baptism. It is not a "have to" it is a "get to" in our lives.

Confirmation is instruction in our faith as Lutheran Christians. Generally, most people in the Lutheran denomination are baptized as infants. Confirmation is a time to learn about the promises parents have made, on behalf of their children, the fundamentals of faith, Lutheran theology and our Bible.

Confirmation is an opportunity to affirm our Baptism. To learn and celebrate what God has already done. It is an opportunity to ask questions, to wrestle with how we think about God and our daily lives, and to grow deeper in our relationship with Christ.

Confirmation is a time to meet people from church, serve as an apprentice in the life of the church and have fun.

Whatever you have learned or received or heard
from me, or seen in me—put it into practice.
And the God of peace will be with you.
Philippians 4:9



What Is Involved in Confirmation?

Confirmation typically is for 6th-8th grade youth and meets on Sunday Mornings starting at 9:15. The content of this time, over 3 years will be, covering the New and Old Testaments, Small Catechism and living the faith.

Youth are confirmed in the Spring of their 8th grade year.

Like in any program, ministry or activity, there are a variety of aspects as well as expectations in place to meet the objectives set forth. This Handbook will explain the variety of expectations. *These expectations and program facets exist, as they are the ones that the leadership feels will make the most impact in the faith life of the youth.*

- ◆ Attendance
- ◆ Memory Work
- ◆ Serving in Worship
- ◆ Mentoring
- ◆ Families lead worship together
- ◆ Confirmation Project

If a youth is not able to meet these expectations, then a conversation with the leadership and the family will be held as to whether this is an appropriate time for the youth to be involved in Confirmation. Again, Jesus will not love you any more or less if you do or do not get Confirmed.

Attendance Policy

In order to learn, know, or understand anything, one has to show up. It is important to the group and to the individual, if you are making this commitment, to be a part, contribute and be present. For this reason, it is expected that you attend Confirmation Classes.

You are asked to be present for 80% of the classes. This is the general percentage that schools use before truancy occurs. For this year, that is 20 of the 26 classes. If a youth misses more than 5 classes then a conversation will occur with the family and leadership asking the question, is this an appropriate time for the youth and family to be involved in Confirmation at Resurrection. For particular sessions, there will be make-up work that youth are expected to complete.

It is also expected that when in class, unless instructed otherwise, youth will not be using any other technology than what is needed for class.

Curriculum/Format/Schedule

What is it we will be learning?

Through the talent and religious education background of the leadership they are creating a 3 year cycle curriculum that will be *relevant, faithful, challenging and current to the needs of the youth*. In the course of 3 years we will cover the *Old and New Testaments, The Small Catechism, Lutheran Theology and how we integrate our faith into our daily lives*.

Youth also will be receiving a Bible when Confirmation begins. Everyone receiving the same Bible will help us as we work through the material.

It is expected that youth will bring this Bible every week to class.

How will I be learning?

We will be engaging in a variety of facets for learning and growing. We know that faith is formed through personal, trusted relationships that are usually found in the home and that faith is caught more than it is taught. In order to create space for those relationships and to catch the faith we need to take away distractions, spend quality time together, and connect people together. *On Sunday Mornings the program will be in the Outreach Building and will follow in this way-*

Confirmation Extravaganza- Usually the 1st Sunday of the month 9:15-1:00 PM

During these hours youth will worship together, share a meal, play together, have time for learning taught by the Pastoral and Youth Ministry Teams and spend time building lasting relationships with one another in small groups.

Monthly Mentor and Devotional- Usually the 2nd Sunday of the month 9:15-10:30

Youth will be paired up with adults from the congregation enjoying a devotional that is prepared for them focusing on them getting to know each other and sharing their faith with one another. Parents cannot be the mentor for their youth, but can be for another youth.

Serve in Worship-Usually the 3rd Sunday of the Month 9:15 -10:30

Confirmation is in part, deepening your faith in Jesus and your connection to your faith community. Worship is where we set our heart to God's, where we are reminded of who we are and how we are called into this world. Youth will be working through their giftedness to plan and execute a part of worship once a semester. They will prepare for that each month on the 3rd Sunday. *Worship Dates: December 17/18, April 22/23.*

Memory Work

Memorizing God's Word and the fundamentals of our faith is done to allow these things to permeate our head and our hearts. It sinks into our souls and then shapes our choices, our thoughts, our actions and our hearts. Many times, as people lose all the things around them— their jobs, their family, their material wealth, their minds, their friends, their dreams, it is the words of faith, the Lord's Prayer, Scripture, our Creed and Commandments that still ring in our ears and provides comfort.

Youth are asked to Memorize

- ◆ The Lord's Prayer
- ◆ The Apostle's Creed
- ◆ The 10 Commandments (in order)
- ◆ At least 1 verse of scripture per year as well as create an expression

Families in Faith Together

Families that spend time together in service and with others, in the name of Christ, are more likely to practice their faith in their homes and throughout their lives. We want the whole family, whatever shape that is, to engage in their faith lives and grow. Resurrection has so many ministries from Art by Heart, Hiking, Service and Outreach, that we are encouraging the families to engage in these ministries to connect with the church community and each other.

As a Family we do ask that once a year you help lead worship during our Family Worship days. Any age can help lead so you can even invite older and younger siblings, grandparents, whoever you consider your family. Families are able to assist in worship by serving in Communion, Ushering, or perhaps special music! Sign up for your Sunday on our CYF website page. <https://www.orovalley.org/cyf.html>



12-4
© 2013 Jeff Keenan, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Syndicate
www.kingfeatures.com
"I can't find what channel we're on."

Confirmation Project

In the Spring, the youth will be expected to present a Confirmation Project to their peers. They will have discretion as to what the end product is. They are encouraged to use their own gifts and passions. It can be a piece of art, a song, a paper, a puppet show, a video, a game, a collage, etc. Their Confirmation year they will present one of their projects to Church Council and for the Congregation to experience. They will be highlighted during the Confirmation Services and will include the verses of scripture and the expression that was created through out their confirmation journey.

What passage Can I choose?

Your passage can come from anywhere in the Bible. It must be 1-3 verse and more than 2 words.

What can my project be?

Anything, be creative! You can write a song or a poem, create a game, make a video, create a painting or a collection of pictures. If you would like to write a paper on what the verse means to you, you can do that to, the sky is the limit!

What do I need To do When?

- * By February 4th Confirmands need to have a chosen verse and tell Josh what verse they are going to be using.
- * By March 5th Confirmands need to have an idea of what their project is going to be and tell Josh what they are thinking.
- * April 7th, be ready to present to the whole class
- * April 14th, share with your mentor



Youth Nights & Other Cool Events

Also a part of our Middle School Ministries are Youth Nights. These events include all night events here at church and out on the town, service days, and other events like Axe Throwing. These events are great events to bring friends!

August 13th– Wet and Wild BBQ

August 20th– Axe Throwing
3-6 p.m.

September 23rd– Service Day

October 21st– Fall Fest

October 27th– Who done it Party

November 17th– Family and Faith Hockey Night

December 15th– Christmas Party

January 27th– Youth Adventure

February 10th– Service Day

March 8th– Lock Out

April 13th– Service Day

May 11– End of the Year Pool Party

You can look out for information on upcoming events, and register for events on our Google Calendar.



Confirmation Calendar

August

- 6th- Confirmation Orientation 12-1:30 p.m.
- 13th- Bible Blessing, Confirmation Kickstart 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 20th- Confirmation Kickstart 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 27th- Confirmation 9:15-10:30 a.m.

September

- 3rd- Family worship NO CONFIRMATION
- 10th- Confirmation Extravaganza 9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 17th- Confirmation Mentor Sunday 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 24th- Confirmation Worship Prep 9:15-10:30 a.m.

October

- 1st- Confirmation Extravaganza 9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 8th- Family worship No Confirmation
- 13th- Confirmation Mentor Sunday 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 24th- Confirmation Worship Prep 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 29th- Confirmation Reformation Party 9:15-10:30 a.m.

November

- 5th- Confirmation Extravaganza 9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 12th- Confirmation Mentor Sunday 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 19th- Confirmation Worship Prep 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 26th- Thanksgiving weekend-No Confirmation

December

- 3rd- Confirmation Mentor Sunday 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 10th- Confirmation Extravaganza 9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 17th- Youth Lead Worship (Saddlebrook 9 a.m. & Oro Valley 10:45 a.m.)
- 24th- Christmas Eve- No Confirmation
- 31st- New Years Eve- No Confirmation

January

- 7th- Confirmation Extravaganza 9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 14th- Confirmation Mentor Sunday 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 21st- Family worship NO CONFIRMATION
- 28th- Confirmation Worship Prep 9:15-10:30 a.m.

February

- 4th- Confirmation Extravaganza 9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 11th- Confirmation Mentor Sunday 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 18th- Confirmation Worship Prep 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 25th- Family worship NO CONFIRMATION.

March

- 3rd- Confirmation Extravaganza 9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 10th- Confirmation Mentor Sunday 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 17th- Family worship NO CONFIRMATION
- 24th- Confirmation Worship Prep 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 31st- Easter No Confirmation

April

- 7th- Confirmation Extravaganza 9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 14th- Confirmation Mentor Sunday 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 21st- Confirmation Worship Prep 9:15-10:30 a.m.
- 28th- Youth Lead Worship

May

- 4th- Rite of Confirmation Service
- 5th- Confirmation Celebration



Confirmation Project Verse Ideas

Below are some of our theme verse for the year. If you are looking for a verse for your project consider picking a verse or two from any of the below. If nothing from below resonates with you starting on page 1401, in your Colaborate Bible you can look up topics and find Bible verse around a specific theme. Such as love, peace, family, strength, gentleness, etc..

Genesis 12:1-3

12 Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”^{1a}

Exodus 3:12

12 He said, “I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

Numbers 23:19

God is not a human being, that he should lie,
or a mortal, that he should change his mind.
Has he promised, and will he not do it?
Has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

Nehemiah 1:5-6

5 I said, “O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, 6 let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for your servants, the Israelites, confessing the sins of the Israelites, which we have sinned against you. Both I and my family have sinned

Psalms 66:1-4

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
2 sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.
3 Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!
Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.
4 All the earth worships you,
they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name.” Selah

Isaiah 43:2

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

John 3:17

17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Romans 8:37-39

37 No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.



The Children, Youth and Family Team are here to be in partnership with you. Please, contact us if you are in need of anything, have ideas or want to be engaged in ministry.

Pastor Erin Morris
emorris@orovalley.org
651.323.3654

Josh Carlson-Kroschel, Interim Youth Minister
(Confirmation Ministry)
jcarlson@orovalley.org

Nicole Carlson-Kroschel, High School Director
nkroschel@orovalley.org

Brenda O'Connor, Children/ Family Ministry
boconnor2222@yahoo.com

Chris Justesen, Child Development Center Director
chrisjustesen1@gmail.com

Resurrection Lutheran Church
11575 N 1st Ave.
Oro Valley, AZ 85737
Phone: 520-575-9901

<https://www.orovalley.org/cyf.html>

