

Dear Confirmation Students and Families,

We don't need to tell you that COVID-19 has flipped the world upside down. None of us were given a handbook on how to navigate life during a worldwide pandemic. The Faith Formation team at St. Philip's has been doing our best to figure out the best way to lead confirmation during this time. This letter is to give you all an update on how we plan to go forward from here.

Our first confirmation meeting won't be until October 7, then we will meet the first Wednesday of every month after that. We will still meet at 7:30 PM. The reason we are waiting until October is because we want to give students, teachers, and families plenty of time to plan for confirmation and adjust to all the new changes. Starting school and returning to in-person worship and starting confirmation all at once -- all with new regulations to remember -- would likely be very stressful for many of us and we want to avoid that as much as we can.

Considering the fact that the previous school year ended early, all missed worship notes and service hours from that time will be excused. Starting in October, however, we expect confirmation students to resume their regular requirements. There will be an online form to fill out for students who take worship notes by watching it online.

We will be meeting in person. Students are required to wear masks and social distance-- they will have assigned seats that will be kept at least 6 feet apart from each other. There will also be an option to Zoom into their class so they can attend virtually and still interact with each other from home.

It is very unlikely that we will have a confirmation this year, nor any other trips. However, we will remain hopeful that this can still be a possibility.

Lastly, we understand that living through a pandemic is stressful for everyone. It's extremely important that we support each other during this time. No matter how terrible the world gets, remember that "faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinth. 13:13). God loves us and we love each other. No matter what happens, nothing can change that, and we hope that we can help our confirmation students believe that in their hearts.

Your Siblings in Christ,
Pastor Greg Geier and Sarah Bennett

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

Confirmation Registration Form 2020-21

Please complete this form so we can update our records.

This form can be mailed back to, or dropped off at the church office at

1401 15th St. W, Hastings, MN 55033.

Student's Name Grade (2020-21) Birth Date Age Baptism Date

Do you plan on sending your student to confirmation classes in person or attend over Zoom?
Circle one:

In-person Zoom A mix of both

___ Please check here if all of the following is exactly the same as listed in the most recent update of the church directory. **Please update additional contact information as that is not kept on file from year to year.**

Name of Parent(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____ Are you a member of SPLC? YES NO

Most checked Email address:(we communicate via email often) _____

Additional contact information for a family member that may handle drop off/pick up:

Name of Parent, Grandparent, Guardian, etc: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____

It is our goal to make St. Philip's Confirmation Program a wonderful experience for your student:

If your child has allergies, health or behavior concerns that our volunteer Confirmation staff should know about, please check here _____ and list an allergies or health concerns:

I give permission for my child to attend St. Philip’s Lutheran Church Faith Formation Programs and to take part in the regular program activities. I authorize that my child is in good health and able to participate in moderate physical activities. I authorize St. Philip’s to provide any necessary medical care in the event of an emergency. I understand that I will be notified as soon as possible if emergency care is needed.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

If this portion is unsigned, a separate meeting will be set with family and staff to make a plan.

I would like to schedule an appointment with the pastor or staff regarding questions or concerns:

YES NO

Program Registration Suggested Donation (Checks Payable to St. Philip’s Lutheran Church)

Confirmation (Grades 7th - 9th) Wednesdays 6:45- 7:45 pm **\$50**

The registration donation covers a portion of the costs of the curriculum materials, retreat, programming costs and supporting activities.

Confirmation student please initial below:

_____ During classes & activities I may be photographed. By initialing, I am giving St. Philip’s permission for the photographs to be used in ways such as monthly newsletters, church bulletins, DVD church presentations, Facebook, Instagram, and on the church website.

Parent or Guardian please initial below:

_____ During classes & activities your child may be photographed. By initialing, you are giving St. Philip's permission for the photographs to be used in ways such as monthly newsletters, church bulletins, DVD church presentations, Facebook, Instagram, and on the church website.

_____ During the course of the year, bus trips and parent-driven activities will take place. Please initial if your student has permission to ride with hired or screened drivers.

During the course of the year, we will need parents to participate. Please circle areas where you will feel most comfortable. You will not be assigned a duty without prior arrangements.

*Purchase and bring additional project supplies.

*Lead small group discussion.

*Participate in off-site projects (ie Feed My Starving Children)

*Participate in on-site projects (ie sorting food for HFS)

*Supervise Lutheran Lock Out or Moonlight Madness (all night fellowship event) or Retreat

*Mentor a student other than your own.

*Help with registration for times like Mentor Meeting

If you have any questions about confirmation registration, please contact the Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, Sarah Bennett, at sarahb@splchastings.org or (651) 829-9182.