

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

Parent Handbook

7th, 8th, and 9th Grade Confirmation

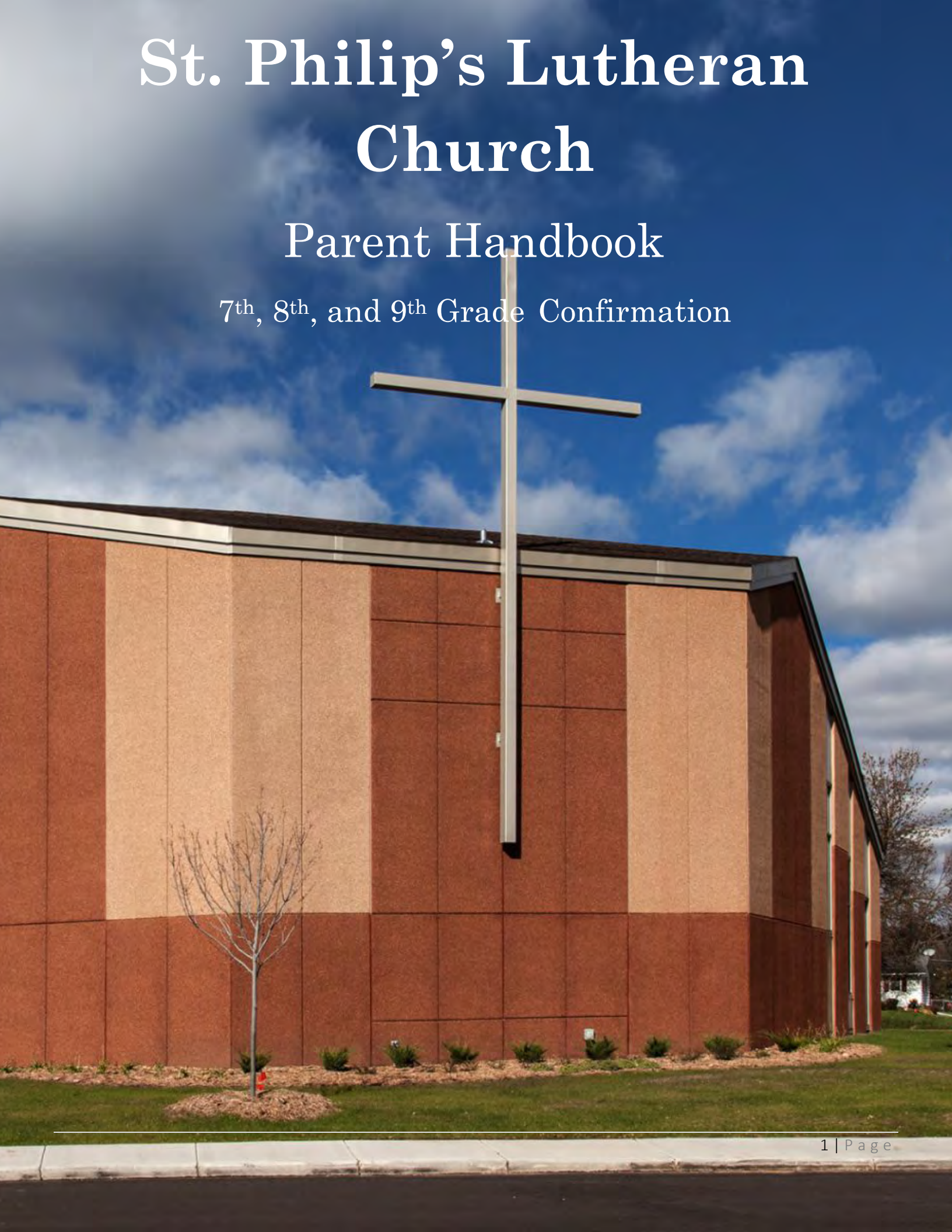


Table of Contents

Topic	Page
Welcome	3
What is Confirmation?	4
Important Dates	5
Student Responsibilities	6
Parent and Confirmation Leader Responsibilities	7
Discipline Policy, Communication, & Contact Info	8
7 th Grade Confirmation Schedule	9
8 th Grade Confirmation Schedule	10
9 th Grade Confirmation Schedule	11

WELCOME!

Dear Parents and Confirmation Students:

It is a precious privilege to be a parent. We at St. Philip's Lutheran Church count it a privilege to assist you in helping your child grow in faith.

Confirmation instruction is only meaningful when "three" circles intersect together: parent, student, and church. These three important groups need to work together as a team. Confirmation instruction is a way for the church to *assist* parents in providing their child's instruction in Christian faith. However, confirmation instruction is not a satisfactory substitute for active Christian instruction and modeling at home.

Having your child participate in the Confirmation program at St. Philip's means your child will have the opportunity to experience faith, fellowship and service. Our program is designed to provide instruction and opportunities to help your child better understand the promises that were given to him or her at Baptism. Confirmation instruction aims to help the student understand both the promises and the commands of our loving God. We rejoice with you as you fulfill your Baptismal promises by providing your child with Christian instruction, and we remind you of how very important you are in this journey for your child. Worship together! Pray together! Learn together!

In Christ's love,

Your St. Philip's Pastors and Confirmation leaders

Confirmation is...

Confirmation is a special part of the faith formation journey at St. Philip's Lutheran Church. The goal of the Confirmation ministry is to acquaint our 7-9th grade young people with Jesus Christ and to establish, encourage, and strengthen active discipleship in Him. Staff, small group leaders, and parents all take part in this faith formation process which culminates in the fall of 10th grade when our students make an informed and public confession of faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord.

We encourage you to make Confirmation a top priority, a weekly commitment that enables your son or daughter to develop greater relationships with other Confirmation students, their small group leaders, and the pastors.

The year ahead promises to be exciting, challenging, and life-forming as you take part in St. Philip's Confirmation program of worship, service, class time, retreats, building relationships, and more. We look forward to growing with you.

Confirmation classes are offered:

Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 from September 2nd 2015– May 4th 2016

Confirmation Curriculum

The curriculum has been designed to fulfill the promises made in Baptism: to teach the Ten Commandments, The Apostles Creed, Lord's Prayer, and the Holy Scriptures. The curriculum will also explore the following questions: Who are we, Who is God, and Who am I. It is an opportunity to learn, to question, and to grow in faith. Some of the main topics covered in Confirmation are:

7th Grade

What is Confirmation?
What is a Lutheran?
The Sacraments
Knowing your Bible
What is Grace?
Baptism &
Communion
The Ten
Commandments
The Apostle's Creed
The Lord's Prayer

8th Grade

Who is God?
Science and Faith
Relationship with God
What is sin?
What is repenting?
What is the word of
God?
What is the Kingdom of
God?
Why did Jesus die on
the cross?

9th Grade

Who are you?
Who is God to you?
Relationship with Others
Prayer
Faith and Friends
Stewardship
Personal accountability
Lifes Purpose
Spirituality
Faith and Family

IMPORTANT DATES

- Parent-student orientation meeting for all grades – Attendance at this meeting is mandatory for both parents and students.
 - **September 2nd 2015 at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary**

All of the following dates apply to all grade levels unless noted otherwise. Please see individual grade level confirmation schedules for more details.

- September 2nd – Orientation Meeting Confirmation Kick-off ☺
- September 9th – Classes begin at 6:30pm
- October 14th – No classes due to MEA
- November 14th – Feed my Staving Children. Bus Leaves at 5:15 P.M. and will return at 8:30 P.M.
- November 13th-15th – Weekend Retreat at Camp Victory
- November 25th – No classes due to Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 23rd and 30th – No classes due to Christmas and New Year's Break
- January 6th – Classes resume
- March 23rd – No classes due to Spring Break
- March 30th – Classes resume
- May 4th – End of Year Celebration

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO...

WORSHIP

- We encourage families to attend worship together weekly.

CLASSROOM ATTENDANCE

- Attend confirmation class on a weekly basis. We understand that extenuating circumstances arise and will be taken into consideration by the confirmation leaders and make up work will be required after 2 absences.

SERVICE HOURS AND PROJECTS

- Perform a minimum of 12 service hours within the church or within the community. Opportunities include choir, nursery assistant, Sunday School assistant, service projects (see below) and acolyte. Please see confirmation leader if you have questions regarding service hours. See your confirmation leader for blank forms and turn in completed forms to your confirmation leader as well.
- Throughout the confirmation year, you are required to attend the following service projects. These projects will count towards your service hours and will be outside of confirmation class time. See individual grade level calendars for more information.
 - Visit Jewish Synagogue (All grades together)
 - Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children (All grades together)
 - Acolyting –3 times per year per student

CONFIRMATION RETREATS

- Attend one overnight 7th-9th grade retreat at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls, MN
 - Nov. 13th-15th

MEMORY WORK

- Memorize the following from Luther's *Small Catechism*:
 - All ten commandments and their meanings
 - The Apostles' Creed, and The Lord's Prayer
 - Luther's Explanation of Article 2 & Explanation of Articles 1 and 3 in the student's own words

SERMON NOTES

- Complete sermon notes on 12 worship services each year. Forms will be provided by confirmation leader.

MENTORING PROGRAM

- All students will participate in the mentoring program during Lent from February 10th – March 23rd. Mentoring information will be provided by confirmation leaders prior to Lent.

PARENTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO...

- Attend worship regularly with confirmand.
- Make certain confirmand is on time for large group, retreats, and service projects.
- Assist confirmand in completing assignments, memory work, make-up work, and other requirements as needed.
- Attend parent-student events, service projects, and meetings.
- Attend Lent services with student.
- Attend Holy Week services with student.
- Ensure that confirmand is acolyting for 2 worship services throughout the confirmation year.
- Attend service projects with confirmand as you are able. Sign up to drive students or provide food as needed for service projects.
- Provide treats for one confirmation class throughout the year. See sign up sheet.
- Communicate concerns or special needs of confirmand to confirmation leaders, or pastors to enable them to provide the best possible program for each student.

CONFIRMATION LEADERS WILL...

- Share their faith and commitment to Christ and His Church.
- Provide the opportunity for all students to learn and grow in faith.
- Collect and keep record of service hours, projects, attendance, and sermon notes for each student.
- Encourage student's participation in large and small groups and in the church.
- Establish relationships with each student to encourage, nurture, and support your child in faith.
- Open communication to build relationships with parents, and students.

THE DISCIPLINE POLICY

- Any student who causes a disruption to his or her learning and the learning of others in the large or small groups will be **warned once** by the teacher.
- If the student continues to disrupt the program a **second time**, he or she will be asked to leave the group and spend time with the confirmation leader to discuss the situation and develop a plan for future success throughout confirmation. This plan will be signed by the student, parent, and confirmation leader.
- If the student does not follow the plan and disruption continues, the confirmation leader and student will talk to the parents. Together, they will decide how Confirmation should continue for the student.

COMMUNICATION

- Confirmation leaders will do their best to update the confirmation bulletin board in the hallway, update the confirmation webpage with current events and information, and send communication via email as needed throughout the confirmation year.

CONTACT INFORMATION

7th Grade

Raul Jackson: Phone: 651-437-7610 Email: rauly7138@gmail.com

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8th Grade

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9th Grade

Pastor Ralph Olsen: Phone: 651-437-6541 Ext.11 Email: simbaralph@yahoo.com

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7th Grade 2015-2016 Confirmation Schedule
Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 @ St. Philip's Lutheran Church

September 2nd - Orientation: Welcome!
September 9th - I'm a Lutheran? What's a Lutheran?
September 16th - The "Reform"ation
September 23rd - Grace: Its Not Just Something You Say Before Dinner
September 30th - Touching the Holy: Baptism
October 7th - Touching the Holy: Communion
October 14th - No class due to MEA
October 21st - Apostle's Creed: God Makes things
October 28th - Apostles Creed: The Jesus who Teaches
November 4th - Apostles Creed: The Jesus who Forgives
November 11th - Apostles Creed: Not Just a Ghost
November 13th-15th - Reatreat at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls MN
November 18th - Feed My Starving Children Field Trip (5:15 PM-8:15 PM)
November 25th - No Classes due to Thanksgiving Holiday
December 2nd - The Lord's Prayer: Hey God, Are You There?
December 9th - The Lord's Prayer: What God Wants
December 16th - The Lord's Prayer: Off The Hook
December 23-30th - No Classes due to Christmas and New Year's Eve Holiday
January 6th - The Lord's Prayer: Party On!
January 13th - The 10 Commandments: Not the 10 Suggestions
January 20th - The 10 Commandments: Work, work, work, work, work, work, rest
January 27th - The 10 Commandments: Honor Who?!?
February 3rd- All Class Event
February 10th - March 23rd - Lenten Mentoring
March 23rd - Spring Break
March 30th - The 10 Commandments: Respecting Life
April 6th - The 10 Commandments: Love, Not Sex!
April 13th - The 10 Commandments: Take It or Leave It
April 20th - The 10 Commandments: Your Word
April 27th - The 10 Commandments: I Want!
May 4th - End of Year Celebration

8th Grade 2015-2016 Confirmation Schedule
Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 @ St. Philip's Lutheran Church

September 2nd - Orientation: Welcome!

September 9th - Who is God?

September 16th - Who is God the Father?

September 23rd - Who is God the Son?

September 30th - Who is God the Holy Spirit?

October 7th - What is the Word of God?

October 14th – No class due to MEA

October 21st - What is the Kingdom of God?

October 28th – Who is the Devil

November 4th – What is our Purpose

November 11th – Where did we come from?

November 13th-15th - Retreat at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls MN

November 18th - Feed My Starving Children Field Trip (5:15 PM-8:15 PM)

November 25th – No Classes due to Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2nd – What is Sin?

December 9th - What is Repentance?

December 16th – What is Grace?

December 23-30th – No Classes due to Christmas and New Year's Eve Holiday

January 6th – What is the Good News?

January 13th – Where are we going?

January 20th – What is Faith?

January 27th – What is Prayer?

February 3rd - All Class Event

February 10th – March 23rd – Lenten Mentoring

March 4th – Simpson Shelter (4:00 PM-9:00 PM)

March 23rd – Spring Break

March 30th – What is Church?

April 6th – What is Discipleship?

April 13th - What is Baptism and Confirmation?

April 20th – What is Christian Music?

April 27th – Exploring Christian Music

May 4th – End of Year Celebration

9th Grade 2015-2016 Confirmation Schedule
Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 @ St. Philip's Lutheran Church

September 2nd - Orientation: Welcome!

September 9th - Who is in Control?

September 16th - Faith and Trust

September 23rd - Discipleship

September 30th - Relationship with Jesus

October 7th - Your Lifes Purpose

October 14th – No class due to MEA

October 21st - Prayer

October 28th – The Good News

November 4th – Spirituality

November 11th – Hunger 101 (6:30 PM-8:00 PM)

November 13th-15th - Retreat at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls MN

November 18th - Feed My Starving Children Field Trip (5:15 PM-8:15 PM)

November 25th – No Classes due to Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2nd – Values and Devotion

December 9th - Friends and Peer Pressure

December 16th – Family Matters and Communication

December 23-30th – No Classes due to Christmas and New Year's Eve Holiday

January 6th – Relating to the Opposite Sex

January 13th – Sexuality: Movies/Media vs. God

January 20th – Self Image

January 27th – Minding God's Store

February 3rd - All Class Event

February 10th – March 23rd – Lenten Mentoring

March 23rd – Spring Break

March 30th – Why must I "Confirm It"

April 6th – Statement of Faith

April 13th - Statement of Faith

April 20th – Statement of Faith

April 27th – Stole making

May 4th – End of Year Celebration