

Dear 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents (2017-2018),

The new school year is right around the corner and with it comes a new year for confirmation at St. John's Lutheran church. I am pleased to welcome those who will be beginning confirmation with us this year, as well as welcoming back those students who will start their second year of the program!

Our confirmation program is one of the biggest ministries that our congregation takes part in. Not only do students spend two years learning about the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism, but it is also a time in which they will develop friendships with classmates and small group leaders, take part in service projects, and have meaningful conversations with a mentor of their choosing.

Our program will be a little different this year, with the large group learning time happening in 3 separate Saturday or Sunday afternoon 2 hour sessions that will be attended by both students and parents. After trying this model out with our first communion classes Amanda and myself have discovered that this is the most beneficial way to teach our students, in concentrated sessions (rather than after a long day of class) and with the most important people involved in their faith journey...you!

**There will be more details to come regarding a specific schedule for confirmation, but our parent orientation (students are asked not to come to this session, they will have a separate orientation) is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall of St. John's.** This orientation will take about an hour and we will cover all of your questions and concerns at that time, as well as go over the responsibilities and privileges of being a parent of a confirmation student! 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents, this is also the time we will talk about small groups and guide duties. This orientation is required if you are planning on enrolling your student in confirmation this program year. If you have a conflict and cannot attend, please contact Lindsay and we will speak individually.

Enclosed in this letter is the confirmation form that must be filled out to enroll. Registration is also available at [www.stjohnskasson.org/confirmation](http://www.stjohnskasson.org/confirmation). You may contact me at any time regarding questions and/or concerns. I look forward to seeing you in September!

God's blessings be with you always,

Lindsay Colwell, Youth Ministry Coordinator