

Welcome to the 2020-2021 program year for the St. John's confirmation program! I am very happy that your student, and for that matter your family, has decided to join us for this important faith milestone.

As you know, the last 6 months have been very different for all of us as we continue to grapple with the difficulties brought on by COVID-19. With this in mind, as well as doing our part to help keep our students safe and doing in-person learning, we will be taking on this program year in a hybrid model. We will be meeting in person each week outside through the middle of October (as long as we are able to follow CDC and MDH guidelines, as well as the re-engagement plan put forward by St. John's leadership) and there will be some online components as well. **There will be an announcement the week of October 11 regarding how we will move forward with our class time together as the weather will be turning at that point making it difficult to be outdoors.**

There will be 3 opportunities for students to join class time throughout the week, as well as a home learning option for those who are not yet comfortable taking part in in-person class. Students can join us for class time at one of the following times (this may change week to week depending on your family's schedule needs, attendance will be taken at each meeting):

- Sunday morning at 10am (if/when we return to 2 worship services on Sunday mornings this will change back to 9:10am)
- Wednesday evening at 5pm
- Wednesday evening at 7:15pm

Families do not need to commit to a specific class time, though you may if you wish. This will allow the most flexibility for all of our students. Each activity will be available in-person (as long as it is safe to meet) as well as online, so if your student misses a week they will be able to complete the work on their own time. There will also be a Google Meet video option to join us during class time if students choose. We will follow the lead of the Kasson-Mantorville School District in our planning. If the school goes to flex/online class only we will do the same.

Confirmation class work will need to be completed for the program year by Sunday, June 13, 2021.

We will be using a variety of online tools to make communication easier and so that there is a central place for student's work. More information regarding all of this will be coming as we get our program year started. I have made a Google Calendar for programming this year to hopefully help make keeping track of class time easier. The link for that calendar can be found [here, Confirmation 2020-2021](#). The calendar is also laid out on the following page.

Schedule for 2020-2021 Confirmation Program (Sunday/Wednesday)

- Sept. 20/23 Getting to know each other, lawn games
- Sept. 27/30 Importance of Worship/Importance of Service
- Oct. 4/7 Health and Wellness, life milestones
- Oct. 11/14 Food Insecurity and Water No class on Wed., 10/14
- Oct. 18/21 No class Sun., 10/18 Food Insecurity and Water
- Oct. 25/28 Daily Prayer
- Nov. 1st/4th Daily Devotion
- Nov. 8/11 No class (Sunday and Wednesday)
- Nov. 15/18 Liturgical Calendar
- Nov. 22/25 Mentor Session #1 No class Wed., 11/25
- Nov. 29/Dec. 2 No class Sun., 11/29 Mentor Session #1
- Dec. 6/9 Class Time to be determined subject
- Dec. 13/16 Service Projects
- Dec. 20/23 Fellowship and Fun
- Dec. 27/30 Christmas Break, No Class (Sunday and Wednesday)
- Jan. 3/6 New Year's Break, No Class (Sunday and Wednesday)
- Jan. 10/13 Luther's Small Catechism
- Jan. 17/20 Mentor Session #2
- Jan. 24/27 No Class (Sunday and Wednesday)
- Jan. 31/Feb. 3 Luther's Small Catechism
- Feb. 7/10 Racial Justice
- Feb. 14/17 No Class (Sunday and Wednesday)
- Feb. 21/24 Spiritual Practices
- Feb. 28/Mar. 3 Old Testament
- Mar. 7/10 Importance of Relationships and Community
- Mar. 14/17 Service Projects
- Mar. 21/24 New Testament/Holy Week Review
- Mar. 28/31 Serving at Worship (Palm Sunday) No Class Wed., 3/31
- Apr. 4/7 Easter Sunday, No class Serving at Worship (4/7)
- Apr. 11/14 Climate Justice
- Apr. 18/21 Giving to God, Finances, Economic Justice
- Apr. 25/28 Camp fire, end of the year review, follow-up
- May 2nd/5th Last day of class, Fellowship and Fun

There are lots of changes for our confirmation program this year. As of right now there will not be any obligations for students outside of the regular class work as at this time we are not planning to have a Wednesday evening meal. Worship assisting will also be on hold in the way we have done it in the past for the time being as there will be more training needed to help keep us all safe and healthy.

I look forward to working with all of you during this program year. I will do my best to keep communication lines open and to equip you and your student in this journey of faith.