



# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod

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Rev. Galen M. Purpura Jr.

September 02, 2020

Dear Confirmation Students and Parents,

It has been an interesting Confirmation year..... History making, really!

As you well know the COVID crisis really forced us to re-configure and delay many of the regular programs at St. John's- Confirmation included! Now that we have some clearance to meet and gather, I'd like to develop a plan for the completion of Confirmation instruction and the Rite of Confirmation.

## **STEP 1- Completion of Instruction**

As I noted in the early onset of COVID, at home Confirmation lesson work was to be continued according to the established 2019-2020 schedule that students received last September. At this point all students should have completed the 26 lessons in the workbook, so I would like to finish the year with two review sessions to prepare students for final reviews . The sessions will be on:

- **Thursday September 24th from 6:00pm-7:30pm**
- **Thursday, October 1st from 6:00pm-7:30pm**

For those Confirmation students who have not completed the lessons in your workbook, now is the time to finish it up!!! *Those who have not completed the work will not be confirmed! NO EXCEPTIONS!!!*

## **STEP 2- Preparing for The Rite of Confirmation**

At the time of instruction students were given a list of "required expectations" in order for them to be confirmed. Since COVID stifled much of our time this year, I have decided that there will be no required essay or sermon reports and no final written review. In order for students to participate in the Rite of Confirmation they will simply need to:

1. **have the 26 lessons in the workbook complete.**
2. **Participate in a final review with the board of elders which will take place on 10/11/20. 10am**
3. **Participate in a final review with Pastor which will take place on 10/18/20. 10am**
4. **Participate in Confirmation rehearsal on 10/24/20. 10am**

## **STEP 3- The Rite of Confirmation**

Finally, I would like to schedule the Rite of Confirmation on **October 25th, 2020**. Ordinarily, the Rite would take place during the 8:30 am service and parents, godparents, and family would be invited. However, since our occupancy is limited due to COVID regulations, (and I am fearful that if combined

with a regular service we will go over occupancy) I am proposing that we hold the Rite after the 11:15 service that day at 1:00pm. The Rite will be simplified– readings, brief homily, prayers, etc.)

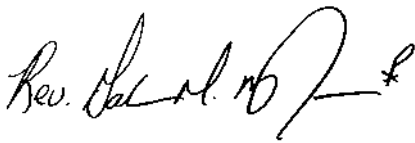
This year there are 8 students potentially being confirmed. Our occupancy in the church is 75. Since we are bound to occupancy regulations we can allow each student to have up to 9 members from their family in attendance.

Families can be grouped together in the pews , however, we of course would still ask that masks be worn and sanitizing take place.

Thanks for your patience this year as we have worked through these unprecedented times. It has certainly been challenging, but I think this is a “workable” approach for finishing up Confirmation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to call.

May the Lord’s richest blessings be yours!!



Rev. Galen M. Purpura Jr.

### Proposed Confirmation Schedule

- **Thursday September 24th from 6:00pm-7:30pm**----- **Lesson Review**
- **Thursday, October 1st from 6:00pm-7:30pm**----- **Lesson Review**
- **Sunday October 11th, at 10:00am** ----- **Review with the board of elders**
- **Sunday October 18th, at 10:00am**----- **Review with Pastor**
- **Saturday October 24th, at 10:00am**----- **Confirmation Rehearsal**
- **Sunday October 25th, at 1:00pm**----- **Rite of Confirmation**