



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod

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15 August 2023

Dear Confirmation Students and Parents,

Attached please find the 2023-2024 Confirmation Schedule. We will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month (with exception to Sundays that conflict with a holiday). **Sessions will begin at 10:00am beginning September 10th.**

Students are expected to attend every session in order to be Confirmed. If a session is missed due to illness, family vacation, or family emergency I will make every effort to accommodate a make up session. However, sessions missed for sports events or other related /non-essential activities will not be excused. These missed sessions can be made up the next time the session returns in the confirmation cycle (please note: this is a 3yr cycle. The appointed lessons for this year will not return for some time). I will hold to this firmly. Please understand, it wouldn't be right of me to compromise the program. Furthermore, as I see it, to make exception is to put other "stuff" before God. I cant in good conscience do that. Please understand, I get it! Having four kids of my own I completely understand the pressure and the demands of life, school, sports, and recreation. Having said that though, I also understand the huge difference regular connection to God and Christian community has on ones life.

I have tried numerous things over the last few years to accommodate the scheduling demands. A Sunday morning schedule is the result of continual conflicts experienced during weekdays. I certainly hope that this will work for you! Faith is a crucial part of our lives and it will be truly heartbreaking to me if students cant find a way to carve out time to learn the things of the Christian-Lutheran faith. Our faith is a beautiful God given gift! It is the one thing that never changes and it shapes and carries us through life and all of its seasons. Not only that, maintaining a continued connection to worship and life at St. John's grounds our children in loving community; we strive to be a place centered on Jesus and his transformational love. We hope to build our young up in the understanding that they "are fearfully and wonderfully made," unique having so much to contribute to faith and life at St. John's and beyond. I once heard it said: "They aren't the future of the church, they are the church." It's true. We need them a part of this team too! If I can be so bold, I think it's time for us to **"Take back Sunday."**

Our class this year will be made up of 6th, 7th and 8th graders.

- All grades will return next September for additional sessions. Those who were in the 7th and 8th grade groups this year will be confirmed in May of 2025 (The Confirmation class will consist of 8th and 9th graders for this cycle only). The current 6th grade students will remain until they are in 8th grade.

I look forward to growing in faith with each of you! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out! See you in Church!

Rev. Galen M. Purpura Jr.

Pastor



And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25

2023-2024 Confirmation Schedule

St. John's Lutheran Church– Depew, New York

Date	Time	Notes:
Sept. 10, 2023	10:00-11:00am	
Sept. 24, 2023	10:00-11:00am	
Oct. 8, 2023	10:00-11:00am	
Oct. 22, 2023	10:00-11:00am	
Nov. 12, 2023	10:00-11:00am	
Nov. 19, 2023	10:00-11:00am	
Dec. 10, 2023	10:00-11:00am	
Dec. 31, 2023	10:00-11:00am	

Date	Time	Notes:
Jan. 14, 2024	10:00-11:00am	
Jan. 28, 2024	10:00-11:00am	
Feb. 11, 2024	10:00-11:00am	
Feb. 25, 2024	10:00-11:00am	
Mar. 10, 2024	10:00-11:00am	
Mar. 24, 2024	10:00-11:00am	
Apr. 14, 2024	10:00-11:00am	
Apr. 28, 2024	10:00-11:00am	

Confirmation 2023-2024

Here's What's Involved for You...

- ✘ Attend Sunday Morning Sessions
- ✘ Attend Sunday Morning Worship— REGULARLY!
Complete 8hrs of service (either in church or community)
- ✘ Participate in Sunday Morning Youth & Youth related activities (1, 3 & 5 Sundays of the month)
- ✘ Complete 10 Worship Reports per year

At the time of Confirmation:

- ✘ Complete end of the year written reflection
- ✘ Complete Reviews with Pastor and Elders
- ✘ Participate in the Rehearsal



The Three Components of Confirmation and Life

1

Worship and Catechism

Worship the Lord with Gladness— Psalm 100

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.” - 2 Peter 3:18

#2

Service and Care

“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus...” Philippians 2:4

#3

Fellowship

“God is Faithful, who has called you into Fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” 1 Corinthians 1:9

“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Matthew 18:20



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Prayers of the Church

Do you have any prayers of your own that you would like to share? If you do, write down the details or who you would like prayed for and why.

What did you find most meaningful about the prayer petitions for the week?

Holy Communion

Use this time to reflect on the goodness of God. What is happening... watch what others are doing. Why do you think this is such a special time? Does anything especially stand out to you? Explain what you look forward to when you are able to take communion. What do you think are the benefits?

Tell About Your Week

What were your high points last week?

What were the low points last week?

Worship

How do you plan to grow this week in faith through Worship and study of God's Word?

Service

How do you plan to reach beyond yourself in service and love toward someone else? How do you think you can go above and beyond to help another?

Fellowship

What opportunities are you looking forward to this week to help you grow closer to your family, your friends, your church?



Confirmation and Life Fellowship Reflection



Name:							
Date of Fellowship Event:		Start Time:		End Time:		Total:	

Describe the Event or Church Fellowship Activity

Describe the Benefits of the Activity.

Recommendation for future church fellowship events

Leader's Name
Leader's Signature



“Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am with them.”
Matthew 18:20



Confirmation and Life

Servant Reflection



Name:							
Date of Servant Event:		Start Time:		End Time:		Total:	

Describe the Servant event or act you participated in

Describe the Benefits of the Activity.

How were others touched by Jesus through you?

Leader's Name
Leader's Signature

