

Confirmation Overview 2021-2022
Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran Church and School

Dear Parents and Confirmands,

Welcome to Confirmation 2021-2022! God the Father has Good News for you and for your children. Jesus Christ, God' Son, our Savior and Lord, reigns. Christ has overcome sin and every evil through the cross and gives life and salvation to all who believe. God is in control.

God's precious promises of grace and forgiveness through faith are irrevocable. The Holy Spirit will not call them back. This world is passing away. His Word will never pass away! May the Lord be with you and your Confirmand as you embark on this journey to learn and study God's Word leading to your son/daughter publicly speaking their faith in Jesus.

Confirmation Component: Home & Church Partnership

Parents - get involved and stay involved in your confirmand's faith formation!

Confirmation is a church and family partnership! Confirmation involves your family, your extended family, and your church family, too. Why? Because, when we're baptized, all those people promise to support and encourage us in our faith journeys. Additionally, because the learning and growing that prepares us for affirming our baptism through the rite of Confirmation can't happen in the 1-2 hours/week that we spend at church.

Parents, ensure that your confirmand attends worship, attends confirmation class and retreats.

The Confirmation Class and Rite of Confirmation is a Big Deal:

Confirmation instruction at TLO corresponds with grades 7 & 8 students and into the Fall of 9th Grade. Through instruction in God's Word, each Confirmand will be led to affirm the faith given in baptism, prepare them for the reception of Holy Communion and make a confession of faith on Confirmation Day.

Confirmation is one milestone in your life of faith. Confirmation equips students with the knowledge and tools to help continue the faith that began at Baptism throughout this life. The focus is learning and confirming the timeless truths of God's Word. Here are some of the priorities of Confirmation instruction:

- A clear definition of the Christian faith
- Understanding of God's Word and how it works
- Understanding what worship is and what worship does
- Understanding of creeds and confessions and how they point to Jesus
- A big-picture look at the Small Catechism

Mark your Calendars NOW!

2022 Confirmation Day, Oct. 30, 2022

2023 Confirmation Day, Oct. 29, 2023



Confirmation Instruction (In Person and Online - both are Available)

Public school and home school students will meet In Person on Wednesdays during the school year. Times will be announced based on student and parent schedules.

TLO Lutheran School students will meet primarily during the school day for religion class. Online Confirmation Instruction is available from Pastor Kroonblawd upon personal request.

Confirmation Curriculum

Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran Church Confirmation class materials and activities are engaging and will lay a foundation for a life-long journey of hearing God's Word and living in faith in Christ and service to others. In first year Confirmation, all students will receive *Luther's Small Catechism* (CPH, 2017), *Catechism Study* workbook and *Apologetics Study* workbook. These materials will be used in the two entire course.

Catechism Study includes

- Introduction to Luther's Small Catechism
- The Ten Commandments
- The Creed
- The Lord's Prayer
- The Means of Grace
- The Christian Life

Apologetics Study includes:

- What is Apologetics?
- Jesus
- Trusting in God and His Word
- Beginnings
- Christian Life

Attendance

Confirmands are expected to attend classes and retreats as scheduled and complete assignments and memory work. Conflicts may arise from time to time. Students that miss class are to complete the assignments missed. If you know of conflicts beforehand, please notify Pastor so that he can plan accordingly. Send an email to: pastork@trinityloneoak.org

Parents of Midweek Confirmation students are to provide support for the Confirmation ministry by attending on Wednesday night Confirmation classes as possible, and chaperone service projects and retreats as needed.

Worship and Sermon Reports

Confirmands are expected to complete and turn in 10 Sermon Notes each year.

Worship is primary for our Christian life and it remains central to the Confirmation program. Attending church services weekly benefits us as God promises to bless us through His Word and Sacrament, through Confession and Absolution and the prayers.

It is in worship that we are gathered together around God's Word, celebrate the Sacraments and are reminded of our call to live as God's children in the world. We ask that you make worship a priority for your family.

In addition to being in worship, we require that students complete ten sermon notes during each of their two years (10 in 7th Grade, 10 in 8th Grade). Printed sermon notes outlines are in the church office and the grade 7 & 8 classroom, are available for download at <https://www.trinityloneoak.org/confirmation> and can be sent directly to the students upon request. Completed forms should be returned to the pastor.

Serving as Acolytes, Projectionist, Greeter, Usher, Altar Guild

All Confirmands will receive training to serve as worship projectionists and will become familiar with worship support roles including: Usher, Greeter and Altar Guild member.

All confirmands are to serve as acolytes for the TLO worship services. Acolyte training is provided for 5th-8th grade students during Sunday School. This program introduces the students to show proper reverence to God in His sanctuary.

Confirmation Retreats

Plans are that TLO confirmands will attend the April 1-2, 2022, Camp Omega Confirmation retreat. More details to come.

Service Learning Projects

Confirmands are to complete a minimum of 3 Service Learning Projects during each year. Service learning projects are designed to encourage students to put their faith into action. Parents will be needed to assist with planning and overseeing the retreats and service learning projects.

Even with concerns over transmission of Covid-19 limiting our opportunities to gather in service, with some creativity, we will be able to offer service projects for our JR Youth and High School students. Parents are needed to assist in organizing projects. If you are interested in helping organize projects, please speak with Pastor Kroonblawd.

Confirmands are to complete one service project with their family and one with J.R. Youth. Projects completed outside of Trinity Lone Oak Confirmation Ministry and J.R. Youth should be approved by Pastor. After completing each project, a reflection piece should be typed and turned in to your confirmation teacher(s) to be discussed.

As students are preparing to be a Christian leader and a good steward of your time, talents and treasure, you may use Service Learning Projects hours as Y.I. Club extra credit service hours. For further information about Y.I. visit <https://lcef.org/young-investors-club/> or speak with Diane Streich, Y.I. Club coordinator.

Service Learning Projects Report

Guidelines for reflection: Summarize what you did and then pick 2-3 of the following questions to cover in your reflection:

- What did I learn about myself from this experience? What did I learn about others?
- In what ways did the experience challenge my values, my beliefs, my faith?
- Which of my values or beliefs were affirmed by this experience?
- What emotions did I experience while I was involved in this experience? Which ones surprised me?
- What was the most successful part of this experience for me? What was the most frustrating part?
- If I could do any part of this experience over, what would it be? Why?
- What did I like best/least about my experience?
- What did I gain from the experience? What did I contribute?
- How might the person I was working with (tutoring, serving, etc.) feel about working with me? How successful might they feel our experience was together?
- what did the person I was working with share with me, teach me, give me?
- How does this experience relate to things I am learning in class?
- How has this experience raised awareness for me of community needs?
- How has my understanding of God's presence and my role in the world changed?

Faith Statement

Faith Statements will be prepared by Second year Confirmands only. Faith Statements will be assigned in the Fall, after completing their Second Year of Confirmation Instruction. Members of TLO will share their faith statements at a TLO Worship service.

Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are appreciated In addition to supporting your son or daughter, there are several ways you as a parent can help our Confirmation ministry run smoothly. Please prayerfully consider whether one of them is a good fit for you.

1. **Wednesday night parent.** Every Wednesday we will need parents to join the class. You will be assigned when you are expected to be at Confirmation with your Confirmand.
2. **Service Project Leader.** We will need parents or others to assist the pastor in coordinating service projects as Confirmation students actively serve members of the congregation and community. This will also include coordinating drivers and chaperons for service projects.
3. **Confirmation Day Reception Coordinator.** This person is responsible for organizing the Sunday reception on the day students are Confirmed (usually cake and punch). This event is held between services on Reformation Sunday in October.
4. **Class Communications Coordinator (one for each grade level).** These people will help parents keep informed about upcoming events for middle school students. This might include changes in confirmation schedules, upcoming service events, or fellowship opportunities.

Parental Involvement at Home

1. Parents are always invited and encouraged to attend confirmation classes with their children.
2. Monitor memory work, mentoring questions, and sermon notes during the year;
3. Involvement with special activities and teams of fellowship, service, and spiritual gifts;
4. Encourage and speak well of the program and its leaders.

Parents and Confirmands – Pray Together!

1. Take joy in having daily devotions with together
2. Pray regularly for and with each other for class your leaders, fellow students, and their families
3. Participate in worship together and join in congregational activities and life together

Confirmands - Make the most of this partnership between You, Pastor and Your Parents!

1. Pray regularly for yourself and others
2. Read your Bible and lead family devotions; Use Portals of Prayer or other devotional
3. Ask questions
4. Share your thoughts, feelings, and doubts;
5. Talk about what you are learning;
6. Participate in congregational life.
7. TLO is full of faith-filled people of all ages. Make them part of your journey. We will all grow in faith as a result!

Parent Covenant

1. Be accountable for the progress of their children.
2. Commit yourselves to praying regularly for your child, the pastor, and others involved in the confirmation ministry.
3. Lead in the education process of their child. Please discuss the content of confirmation with the student, and monitor their memory work, sermon notes and other learning experiences.
4. Worship at TLO on Sundays with your child and take sermon notes so that you can discuss the sermon after worship with your Confirmand.
5. Grow your faith. Join a Bible study and use devotional disciplines, Portals of Prayer, daily Bible reading, subscribe to only devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries, Lutheran Women's Missionary League.
6. Encourage your youth each day in their faith—Confirmation and JR Youth is their opportunity to grow in grace and knowledge and participation in the life of the Church and demonstrate God's love to others.

Confirmation Student Behavior Covenant

- Witness great Christian behavior in the class setting.
- Participate in discussion and take part in sharing.
- Respect the pastor and adult leaders

- Cell phone and electronic device is prohibited during class time
- Godly behavior in the classroom is expected
- Respect other's reputations by no gossiping or posting derogatory statements of others
- At all times give glory to God for His good benefits
- Colossians 3:20 says, "Children be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord."

Discipline is a means of providing safe boundaries for all in the class.

God calls us to instill within students the desire to employ Christian attitudes and behaviors in their daily lives. Therefore, the Ten Commandments are the normal guides for us. There are consequences for our actions in life. This may be in the form of asking another's forgiveness, or serving the consequences of disrupting the class.

If the need arises we have the following policy.

- If a student is disruptive and/or shows disrespect for the instructor or other students, the instructor will then discuss the behavior with the student and apply God's Law so the Gospel may be proclaimed.
- Parents will be contacted and informed regarding disruptive or disrespectful behavior.

Cancellations

Should it be necessary to cancel confirmation, parents will be notified by email. Confirmation is automatically cancelled on days when Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran School and the local public schools close because of inclement weather.

Important dates

September 1, 2021	Confirmation Orientation 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. at TLO Conference Room
October 31, 2021	Confirmation Day 9:00 a.m. - Confirmation Pictures 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service with Holy Communion
October 30, 2022	Confirmation Day 9:00 a.m. – Confirmation Pictures 10:30 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion

**COVENANT OF EXPECTATIONS BETWEEN
Confirmands, Parents and Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran Church
2021 - 2022**

In the Rite of Confirmation, young people have the opportunity to publicly confess their faith, claim the promises of their baptism and begin to identify with and become involved in the adult Christian community. Confirmation instruction is a team effort, involving parents, Pastors, and the educational ministry of the church, to prepare confirmands for their public affirmation of baptism. The Bible is clear that a child's spiritual education is the God-given responsibility of the parents (Ephesians 6:4, Deuteronomy 6:7).

On the day of your child's baptism, you promised to "diligently and faithfully teach him/her the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer; and, as he/she grows in years, to place in his/her hands the Holy Scriptures, bring him/her to the services of God's house, and provide for his/her instruction in the Christian faith; that, abiding in the covenant of his/her Baptism and communion with the Church, he/she may be brought up to lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ" (Rite of Baptism).

Confirmation instruction here at Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran Church and School is a supplement, not a substitute, for your teaching and modeling Christian faith to your children. We are eager to assist you in this educational process. Yet, it remains your responsibility to see that your child receives and participates in Confirmation instruction here at TLO. On his/her Confirmation Day, your child will promise to "continue steadfast in this confession and church and to suffer all even death rather than fall away from it" (Rite of Confirmation). The word "continue" presumes that he/she has already been steadfast in his/her confession and worship throughout the three years of Confirmation instruction.

To this end, the expectation of Confirmation participants in the coming year (2020-2021) are that:

- You and your child will be faithful in attending worship and Sunday school/Bible study.*
- Your child will faithfully attend and participate in as many Confirmation Ministry events as possible including Learning Events, Service Events, Sunday School, Sunday morning Worship, and Social Events.*
- Your child will act in an appropriate manner in class and not be a disturbance to the instructor or other students. If necessary, parents will be asked to sit with their child.*

"Understanding these requirements, we (student and parents/guardians/sponsors) agree to work with the Pastors, Staff and leader to meet the expectations for Confirmation instruction here at TLO. We also understand that failure to meet expectations stated above may result in me/my child being asked to repeat the year or receive additional instruction. If there is a concern about being able to meet the expectations, we agree to contact Confirmation leaders as soon as possible to discuss possible alternate options. For the strength to remain committed to this Confirmation instruction, we will pray daily for God's blessings and direction."

Parent/Guardian/Sponsor Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian/Sponsor Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION ENROLLMENT

Confirmation Instruction is designed to help baptized Christians identify with the life and mission of the Christian community. Ordinarily, upon completion of course requirements, Confirmation instruction leads to a public declaration of faith on Confirmation Day. All Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran School grade 7-8 students are invited to participate in the Confirmation course instruction.

Student Information

Given name as to appear on Confirmation Certificate

_____ (first) _____ (middle) _____ (last)

Phone _____ Email _____

Date of birth _____ Place of birth _____

School _____ GRADE _____

Baptized? _____ YES _____ NO Baptism Date _____

Name of Pastor who baptized student _____

Names of Sponsors or Godparents _____

Father's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Mother's name _____ Phone _____

Address (if different) _____ Email _____

Acolyte training is provided for 5th-8th grade students. This program introduces the students to show proper reverence to God in His sanctuary.

Service Preference (CIRCLE ONE): 8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS



Parent Confirmation Covenant with God

Having given this child to God in baptism and having promised to raise him/her in the way of the Lord, and as I look upon _____, I am so aware of our human vulnerabilities and frailties. I recognize that left to our own secular teachings and devices, we simply raise children who will be vulnerable to Satan’s worldly attacks.¹

God shines His love down on us ever faithfully and I wish to reflect that love back to Him and my child. As a Christian steward, I will lead _____ according to all of God’s Word.²³

Therefore, out of my love for the Father and _____, I will honor Him by assisting _____ as he/she works through the Confirmation process to affirm his/her faith. I will do so by committing to my child’s attendance to the classes and other events, and supporting him/her in studying memory work and for examinations to help gain God’s wisdom. God will do the work, I know, and I will nurture and love along with Him.

Lord, help us in this sacred task for _____’s sake. Amen.

Father Date

Mother Date

¹ In Mark 10:13-16 Jesus stresses to His disciples the importance of children in God’s kingdom.

² Isaiah 38:19 says that the father (parents) makes known to the child God’s faithfulness.

³ Proverbs 22:6 says to train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.



Confirmation Affirmation of Faith

As a baptized child of God, I am so very thankful for my parents; for they have brought me to this point in my journey of faith, making sure that I have seen God's love in action.

I know that it is my responsibility to begin my own faith walk with God – in order that I may receive God's gifts for the sake of sustaining and strengthening of my faith through this world to eternal life.

This is to prepare me, as a child of God, for works of service, so that the body of Christ might be built up until we all reach unity in faith and in knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then I will no longer be an infant, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men and their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking truth in love, I will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, Christ. To be made new in the attitude of my mind; putting on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.⁴

Therefore, I commit myself to the study of God's Word in Confirmation. I will respectfully attend and participate in Confirmation class, Sunday School, and worship. I will also seek to apply God's Word to my life. I will study the Word at home, not just for memory work and examinations, but to gain His wisdom. May God strengthen me in His Word and love.

Student: _____

Date: _____

⁴ This is a paraphrase of Ephesians 4:12-15, 23-24

SERMON REPORT FORM

Name: _____ Date of Sermon: _____

Date of Service: _____

Sermon Theme _____ Bible Text _____

LAW (Shows our sin).

GOSPEL (Shows our Savior).

One thing this sermon challenged me to do is...

I acknowledge that I have read this and that it represents my child's best effort:

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

