

Confirmation lies at the center of the Middle School experience . . . it is the piece that brings it all together. On Wednesdays we gather for class, faith sharing and good times.

Farmington Lutheran's Confirmation program begins in the fall of 6th grade and concludes in the fall of students' 9th grade year. Confirmation is designed to establish, encourage, and strengthen a lifestyle of discipleship and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ among young people, and to assist parents and sponsors in fulfilling the promises made at the child's baptism. Confirmation is an optional program at Farmington Lutheran but once you register, the program and its expectations are no longer optional.

Throughout the school year, 6-8th grade students and adult mentors meet on Wednesday nights for Theme Events utilizing small and large group activities to foster community and facilitate discussion on a variety of topics.

Our 9th grade students and mentors meet three Saturdays, every other week, during the months of September and October for specific topic retreats. We will explore how to take what they learn in confirmation and apply it to their everyday lives. Parents are encouraged to attend the retreats with their youth. 9th grade students affirm the baptismal vows their parent's made for them during baptism on Reformation Sunday, the last Sunday of October.

In addition to Wednesday night classes, students also participate in service projects and worship experiences throughout the year and one retreat per year during their three plus-year confirmation experience.

Contact: Arlan Olson

Confirmation Goals:

The Lutheran Statement: Confirmation is a pastoral and educational ministry of the church, which helps the baptized child through Word and Sacrament to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in its mission.

The Farmington Lutheran Church Statement: Confirmation is the process of engaging our young people in cognitive, fellowship, and service activities so that this religious and spiritual culture guides their lives in and out of church. Our goal is that the young people of Farmington Lutheran will discover their spiritual gifts thus living out God's calling (purpose) in their lives.

Research demonstrates that exemplary youth programs consist of two major components, active adult ministry (mentors for life) and high expectations of young people. We will continue to build our confirmation instruction with these foundational components as our guide.

Our intention is to provide a high-quality educational experience for your child, all done in a fun and safe environment. In the secular space, we move to school districts with exceptional reputations and send our young people to colleges with high standards and expectations. Our goal is to achieve a confirmation program with integrity and Christian principles. Our parents have high expectations of education in Farmington and we intend to meet those expectations in our church. If we are willing to achieve highly in the secular world, what more do we attend to achieve for our Lord who has given us these gifts and abilities?

6th Grade: Our sixth grade students will get a chance to look deeper into some of the most important and fascinating stories of the Bible in both the New/Old Testaments.

7/8th Grade: This age group will explore the Apostle's Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the 10 Commandments. We will also look into the teachings and life of Martin Luther.

Large/Small group time: to learn the Lutheran expressions and doctrines that define our faith; to learn more deeply the Biblical applications in our life experiences; to connect with others in faithful discussions both adult mentors and peers; to fulfill the Baptismal promises, "As they grow in years ...provide for their instruction in the Christian faith ..." attendance at all of these sessions is expected.

Acolyte and Cross Bearing: to gain deeper understanding of the liturgy and worship of the church through participation.

Worship Attendance: We do place an emphasis on regular worship attendance. In baptism you promised to faithfully bring your child to God's house of worship. For it is in worship that we hear God's word and practice our Lutheran doctrine.

Service Projects: to put faith into action in several areas of contact, church, community, world, and practice justice and mercy. The Baptismal promise "living in the covenant of their baptism and in communion of the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ" is reflected by doing projects together (in communion) with faithful reflection of the practicum of theology.

Celebrations of Faith: to put importance on the cognitive perspective of faith and to articulate our faith to the world with the information obtained in Large Group time. The promise to provide in the instruction of the faith from the Baptismal vows is evaluated through this tool.

Synagogue: to create an experience with Christian historical roots and a respectful appreciation for other faiths, particularly the Jewish faith whom many nations and peoples have oppressed.

Wapogasset Bible Camp (Retreat): through a weeklong experience, a youth participates in many faith-enhancing exercises in worship, fellowship, Bible Studies, and mentorship. Relationships are built with peers from Farmington Lutheran and other churches, with college age young adults who are living the faith, and adults who operate the camp. The camping experience is entrenched in the recent history of the church as one of the most significant faith enhancing events for most young people. This intense week meets many of the Baptismal promises stated in the LBW.

Ninth grade evening of sharing: the Affirmation of Baptism implies that the faith the confirmands has received from parents, godparents, and other influences is now one he/she takes ownership of. Each student must be able to articulate this faith in public where the gospel takes root.

9th Grade Celebration Lock-in (Retreat): This a time when all of our 9th grade confirmands can gather together to celebrate not just their confirmation but a time for them to celebrate all the gifts that God has given to them. This retreat gives them the chance to explore how they may use these gifts in their continued Faith Journey here at Farmington Lutheran Church.

2010/2011 Confirmation Registration

Farmington Evangelical Lutheran Church

20600 Akin Road, Farmington, MN 55024

651-463-4100

Please bring this completed form on registration night.

If you have questions, please call Arlan Olson at 651-463-4100 Ext. 207.

(One child per form please.)

Student Information

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Male /Female Circle One
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Street Address	City	Zip Code
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Home Phone	Child's Email Address for Youth Events
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Birth date	Grade as of 9/10	School Attending
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Has student been baptized? (Circle One) Yes/ No

Was student registered last year for Confirmation at FLC? (Circle One) **Yes/ No**

If no, what is student's Confirmation experience?

Please note any special health concerns or disabilities your child's confirmation guide should know about.

Child Lives with: **Both Parents** **Father** **Mother** **Other** (please state relationship)

Contact Information:

Father's Last Name	Father's First Name	Address & Home Phone (if different than above)
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Father's Cell Phone	Father's Work Phone	Father's Email Address
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Mother's Last Name	Mother's First Name	Address & Home Phone (if different than above)
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Mother's Cell Phone	Mother's Work Phone	Mother's Email Address
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Cost: \$40 Tuition

Tuition & Bible \$60

The cost of Confirmation for the year is \$40 per child with a maximum of \$80 per family. Checks may be made payable to: Farmington Lutheran Church. Check here if you need a scholarship_____. If you would like to contribute toward a scholarship, please make additional payment here \$_____.

Farmington Lutheran has a website and occasionally we take pictures of the children participating in church-sponsored events. We'd like to put these on the web-page. We will not use names. Please circle your permission preference. **YES NO**

For Office Use Only	
Date received	_____
Paid	_____
Entered	_____