

# ZION ST. JOHN CONFIRMATION

School Year 2022-2023

## Instructor Information

Instructor	Email	Phone Number
Pastor Kim Wills	<a href="mailto:pastor@zionstjohn.org">pastor@zionstjohn.org</a>	641-425-9453
Bre Hilton	<a href="mailto:youth@zionstjohn.org">youth@zionstjohn.org</a>	

The instructors are assisted by Doreen Dohlman and Darwin Meyer

## Class Time

Confirmation classes for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are held on Wednesday evenings. Due to Covid we have not have a meal the past two years. Pastor Kim firmly believes that this has had an adverse effect on the student's experience and is asking that parent's take turns providing a meal. If you cannot afford to do so, let Pastor Kim know and he will make arrangements to have a meal that evening. Classes do not meet when there is no school, whether it is scheduled or cancelled due to weather. Sunday School meets from 10:15 t 11:00 a.m. each Sunday. This is not required, but is strongly recommended. This time is used for bonding, examining topics not covered in Wednesday night classes, and time to work on memory work and other requirements.

Confirmation is a class that prepares young people to affirm their baptism. At the time of their baptism, parents make promises for their children. Parents promise to "faithfully bring them to the services of God's house, and teach them The Lord's Prayer, The Creed and the 10 Commandments. As they grow in years parents are to place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian Faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church they may live Godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ." Through confirmation classes, not only do parents fulfill these promises by providing for instruction in the Christian faith, they prepare their children to take on these promises for themselves and take responsibility for their own faith life.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

### **Provided Materials**

**Zion St. John will provide the following materials to all students:**

- **New Revised Standard Version Bible**
- **Luther's Small Catechism (hard copy or it can be downloaded for free on cell phones)**
- **Writing Utensils**
- **A binder or folder to keep materials in**
- **Paper as needed**

### **Student Provided Materials**

- **Your cell phone or other technology capable of surfing the web. We will be using technology intentionally during the course of the class. Expectations regarding phones are to simply use them as appropriate in class. Technology that is not being used appropriately may be confiscated and will be returned after class has ended.**
- **Students may occasionally be asked to bring items from home pertinent to class. It is our hope that we will not require you to purchase anything for class without ample notice.**

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Memory Work:** Students will complete a number of items of memory work, including passages from Luther's Small Catechism, The 10 Commandments and the list of the books of the Bible. One change is that we will no longer require students to memorize the Words of Institution. In its place there will be a requirement concerning Good Friday Service and Easter Breakfast. Second year students who have already memorized the Words of Institution will receive credit for one sermon note.

### **Sermon Notes:**

Students will complete 5 sermon notes per year in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. These sermon notes should be completed at Zion St. John whenever possible. If a student plans to attend worship at another church, they may take a copy of the sermon note worksheet with them to complete, but must also bring a bulletin from that congregation.

**Good Friday and Easter Breakfast: (Pending Ed. Committee and Council Approval)** Two long standing traditions in this congregation are that the Youth lead the Good Friday Service and help prepare and serve Easter Breakfast. In 2023 Good Friday falls on April 7<sup>th</sup> and Easter on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Good Friday service rehearsal begins at 3:00 p.m. and the Service is at 7:30 p.m. Students are also expected to work one of the shifts for Easter Breakfast. If a student does not attend these events, the make up component is 2 sermon notes per event.

**Mentorship:** Students may choose a member of Zion St. John to be their mentor. Mentors must be at least 21 years old, may not be related to the student, and preferably are the same gender as the student. Mentors must be approved by Pastor Kim. The main role of a mentor is to become a trusted adult who the student knows and can interact with. Mentors are authorized to work with students on memory work, listen to the recitation and inform us when the student has completed those components.

**Confirmation Project:** During their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, students must complete a project. Projects can be a service project at Zion St. John or one in the community outside of church. The project must take more than one hour to complete. Following completion, students must write a one to two page essay about what they did and what they learned tying their activity to their faith. The paper should be Times New Roman, font size 12, double spaced. Essays will be displayed on Confirmation Sunday.

**Worship Assistants:** During their confirmation years, students are responsible for serving as acolyte and crucifer during worship. The details of these tasks will be explained at a training that will take place during class early in the year. Because we have fewer students, I have a request in to the education committee and church council that we schedule these assistants on Communion Sundays and on Festival Sundays during the church year. The schedule will be sent to you once that proposal has been decided upon. **Note: It is the responsibility of the parent and student to keep track of when they are worship assistants and make arrangements to switch with someone else if you are unavailable on your assigned day. This information is available on our website and in our church newsletter. Please assist us by keeping track of YOUR schedule.**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Trip:** The summer between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade years we usually take a weekend trip to Minneapolis. This is not a requirement. We typically try and go to Mary's Place for a service project and also visit Valley Fair Amusement Park. On Sunday we worship at a Lutheran Church with a contemporary service. Cost of the trip is partially covered by the church. Cost for the trip is usually around \$150 to \$200 plus the cost of food. Financial assistance is available to those who request it. The trip usually takes place one of the first two weekends in August.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Recommended Memory Work</b>
August 31	Parent / Student Mtg	None
September 7	No Class	
September 14	Apostle's Creed #1	First Article of the Creed
September 21	4:00 – 9:00 p.m. Confirmation Retreat at Darwin's Pond	
September 28	Apostle's Creed #2	First Article of the Creed
October 5	No Class (W.F. Homecoming)	Second Article of the Creed
October 12	Apostle's Creed #3	Second Article of the Creed
October 19	Apostle's Creed #4	Third Article of the Creed
October 26	No Class	Third Article of the Creed
November 2	Youth Group	No Memory Work
November 9	Apostle's Creed #5	Third Article of the Creed
November 16	Scavenger Hunt	The Lord's Prayer
November 23	No Class	No Memory Work
November 30	Lord's Prayer #1 & 2	The Lord's Prayer
December 7	Lord's Prayer #3	The Lord's Prayer
December 14	Christmas Party	No Memory Work
December 21, 28	No Class, Christmas Break	No Memory Work
January 4	No Class	No Memory Work
January 11	10 Commandments #1	The First Commandment
January 18	10 Commandments #2	The Second Commandment
January 25	10 Commandments #3	The Third Commandment

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Memory Work</b>
February 1	Youth Group	No Memory Work
February 8	10 Commandments #4	The Fourth Commandment
February 15	10 Commandments #5	The Fifth Commandment
February 22	No Class	The Fifth Commandment
March 1	Youth Group	No Memory Work
March 8	10 Commandments #6	The Sixth Commandment
March 15	No Class (W.F. Spring Break)	No Memory Work
March 22	10 Commandments #7	The Seventh Commandment
March 29	10 Commandments #8	The Eighth Commandment
April 5	No Class Holy Week	
April 7	Good Friday Service 3:00 – 8:30 P.M	
April 9	Easter Breakfast	5:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
April 12	Youth Group	No Memory Work
April 19	10 Commandments #9	The Ninth Commandment
April 26	10 Commandments #10	The Tenth Commandment
May 3	4:00 p.m. Field Trip to Waverly Retrieving Freedom / Bremwood	
May 10	End of Year Celebration	No Memory Work