

Who we are...

We exist to rejoice and praise God by creating disciples of Jesus Christ in the surrounding areas and around the globe.

- Community Oriented
- Prayerfully Strong
- Financially Stable
- Family Focused
- Vision Driven
- Simply Beautiful

What to Expect

We are a “come as you are” congregation of Jesus followers who love God and each other. Our goal is to make all those that enter Cross Lutheran feel as welcome as you would enter the home of your family or best friend.

Contact Us

Pastor John Sutherland
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Find us on Facebook—event information can be found here.
Our YouTube channel is where you can find a livestream of both our Wednesday and Sunday worship services. Past services can also be accessed here.

2024-2025

Confirmation Handbook



CYFM
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Confirmation Experience

Confirmation helps students to confirm the promises made in baptism. Our program will deepen their understanding of these promises and how to live a life as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Our confirmation requirements are set up to help our students get to know God and grow in their faith in Christ.

Confirmation Program Years

The three-year program (7th -9th Grade) covers Martin Luther's Small Catechism, the Old Testament and the New Testament. The 2023-2024 year begins on September 20th at 6p at church. Families are invited to stay for 7p Worship. Grades 7/8 meets weekly from 6p-700p each Wednesday. Worship is at 7p on Wednesday evenings and families are encouraged to attend.

Confirmation Attendance

We are accountable to each other for the success of the program.

We understand that life happens. For that reason, we have confirmation available online and in-person each week. It is our goal to make our programming as accessible as possible.

Students will need their Bible, the blue Lutheran Handbook and a pen. If you do not have a Bible, please let Pastor or Amanda and they will provide you with one.

Class Format

Classes are taught by Pastor (grade 9) and Amanda Swanson (grades 7 and 8). We will use a variety of methods for teaching including in- class teaching, activities, small group discussions, and worship. The Bible and Small Catechism will serve as the basis for instruction. We encourage students and families to attend worship with their student. Anyone of any age is welcome at any class session.

Confirmation: Parent/Guardian Commitment

Parents provide important guidance to their child's faith development years. Studies have shown that if both mother and father attend church regularly – 72% of their children remain faithful in attendance. If neither mom nor dad attends regularly – only 6% remain faithful. Parents are the most powerful teachers of children.

Parents who lead a life worthy of their calling in Jesus Christ, help their children to grow in faith.

The more parents become aware of their spirituality and practice it, the more likely their children will remain faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ and practice their faith openly in the body of Christ, their homes and their communities.

Parental Involvement Includes:

- Monitor your student's work throughout the year.
- Involvement with special activities and teams of fellowship and service.
- Encourage and speak well of the program and its leaders.
- We ask parents to be accountable for the progress of their student.
- We ask parents to commit themselves to praying regularly for their child, the pastor, and others involved in the confirmation ministry.
- We ask that parents take the lead in the education process. Please discuss the content of confirmation with your student, and monitor their memory work, sermon notes and other learning experiences.
- We ask that parents worship regularly with their child and take worship notes with them.
- We ask that parents encourage their youth. This is their opportunity to show God their love and dedication. With the help of God all these tasks can be done joyfully.

Confirmation Behavior Policy

The expectation is to foster an environment filled with respect.

- Come willing to provide an atmosphere that allows both you and your peers to grow in faith.
- Conduct yourself in a manner that shows reverence toward God and respect toward yourself, and others present.

Cell Phone Guideline

Cell phones must be turned off during class.

Worship Reflections

Each student is required to complete 25 worship reflections. These can be completed on Google Classroom, in-person, via text or email, or on the form outside of the church office. Each year in confirmation, this number starts over at zero. Worship reflections can be found outside of the church office; students can turn in their completed forms in this same area.

Mandatory Service Project

At a few points throughout the year, we ask that students engage in service projects as a class. Trunk or Treat, serving the Grace Place meal, participating in Feed My Starving Children are all activities that we hope to see most students participating in.

Service Projects

Students must complete a total of 15 hours over the three years of confirmation (5 hours per year). Service projects are meant to encourage students to put their faith into action. At least one project a year will be done together as a confirmation class. All projects completed outside of Cross should be approved by Pastor or Amanda Swanson. After completing each project, a reflection piece needs to be completed (Google Classroom or form outside of the church office). We ask that students acolyte during worship during the year. Once class has started, a schedule will be given out. If your child is not able to acolyte on their scheduled date, we ask that you try to find a replacement. If you are not able to, please contact Amanda.

Communication

Each week, Pastor or Amanda will send out an email with details about the class that week as well as upcoming events/volunteer opportunities. Please also download our app, ChurchConnect. Instructions can be found within our weekly email or at church.

At any time, please contact Pastor or Amanda with questions, concerns, etc.

Class Focus

The seventh and eighth grade class will focus their time on the basics of Christianity, the Bible, Lutheranism, and all things relating to a solid Christian education.

The ninth-grade students will focus their time on learning more about the sacraments.

Grade 9 Meeting Dates: 1015a-1130a

Sundays: 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/13, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 1/5 -(service project), 1/12, 1/19, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 3/2, 3/9, 3/23, 4/6, 4/13, Rehearsal Wednesday 4/23 as the Sunday prior is Easter Sunday, Confirmation Sunday (Pictures following service) 4/27.

| Middle School Youth Events | |
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| Wed, October 9 following worship | Mission Trip Meeting |
| Saturday, October 26 1p-330p | Trunk or Treat: Service Project |
| Friday, November 15 6p-8p | Friendsgiving (With high school youth) |
| December 7, 2024 | Cookie Fair: Service Project |
| Saturday, December 14, 2024 9a-3p | Mission Trip fundraiser: Gift Wrapping |
| Sunday, December 15 | Christmas Play |
| January 10, 2025 6p-8p | Family Movie Night |
| Friday, January 24, 2025 6p-12a | Almost Overnighter (Nerf War!!) |
| Month of February | Church-wide service project |
| Saturday February 15, 2025 | Mystery Dinner Theatre: Service Project |
| Lent begins on March 5 | Easter Egg Hunt prep: Service Project |
| March 7, 2025 | Youth Bowling |
| April | Middle School Youth Gathering (Date TBD) |
| Sunday, April 2, 2025 | Confirmation Sunday (pics to follow service) |
| Friday, May 2, 2025 5p-7p | Youth Game Night |