

CONFIRMATION, RECONSIDERED...

October '22 - February '23 Catalog

Re | Form

Re | Store

Re | Ignite

Re | Shape

Re | Think

Re | Discover

Re | Consider

FAITH

[RE]FORMATION

WELCOME
to
CONFIRMATION

(Praise God!)

WHAT IS FAITH [RE]FORMATION?

Faith [Re]Formation at Normandale Lutheran offers people of all ages the opportunity to gather for education, faith development, and growth as a community. It is an elective-based model of confirmation and education with the goal of moving beyond mere education toward formation and transformation! Faith [Re]Formation is a way to nurture an entire culture— an ecosystem— of faith formation at Normandale Lutheran.

We believe that heart and hands must accompany the head in the work of Christian discipleship! Therefore, in addition to monthly classroom-style education, we will offer opportunities for discovery, socialization, mentorship, relationship-building across boundaries by tapping into the life experience of multiple generations, because we operate under the conviction that the content of faith has no traction outside of faith-based relationships.

[RE]DISCOVERING THE POINT

Recognizing that we have the opportunity to more intentionally organize our confirmation program around our congregation's core values and the baptisms these young people will affirm at confirmation, we now offer a model which places at its center the baptismal promises found in the *Affirmation of Baptism* liturgy (ELW pg. 237):

1. Live among God's faithful people;
2. Hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's Supper;
3. Proclaim the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed;
4. Serve all people, following the example of Jesus; and,
5. Strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

At its best, confirmation is so much more than an academic curriculum.

In fact, the best possible outcome of confirmation would be young people understanding and affirming the promises made in their baptisms, while finding themselves situated as central members of the church-community who have been given opportunity to explore their own God-given gifts. It's time to design the program itself to place these outcomes at its heart, and in a way that meets the needs (and schedules!) of families.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

In the recent past, confirmation has— by and large— looked like weekly lecture-based class, with occasional opportunity for experiential learning, with very little focus on the kinds of transformational intergenerational relationships we value so highly as Christian community. Going forward, requirements for students desiring to be confirmed will be:

- 1) **Monthly learning event with a parent**, focusing on the core components of Christian faith, through a Lutheran lens.
- 2) **Earn at least 9 elective credits each year** across three categories: *Worship & Music*, *Mission & Outreach*, and *Community*, for a total of 18 credits across two years.
- 3) **Mentorship** program: meet with a chosen faith mentor four times a year for the full two years of instruction (7th & 8th grades).
- 4) Optional **Middle School Youth Group**, offered on Wednesday evenings when monthly learning events, credit courses, and worship are not being offered. If you want a weekly experience beyond Sunday worship, it remains available!

Families, *we have heard you loud and clear about flexibility*, so you may take any combination of courses at any time. For instance, if you are a 7th grader, you can take 14 credits this year and four in 8th grade, if you know you'll have schedule conflicts next year. How you get the number required is up to you! *Choose your own adventure!*

REGISTERING FOR CREDIT COURSES

Some of the courses offered for credit are open for anybody to join at any point, without registering beforehand. To get credit for those courses, you'll simply sign in at the time of those courses, and then fill out an online form afterwards with some reflections on the experience.

Other courses will be offered for a more limited number of participants, and you'll need to pre-register for these opportunities. Many are listed in this catalog (for October 2022 through February 2023), and others will pop up and be sent to you via email throughout the year. Links to the online registration forms for these courses will be provided for you via email by September 17th. We ask that you register— even tentatively — by September 25th, 2022 for this initial “batch” of courses.

There is a contact person listed on each of the credit options. Please note that **you do not have to reach out to the course leader once you register**, unless you have specific questions for them about the course they're leading. They will reach out to you with any additional coordination or scheduling needed.

Parents and other family members are encouraged to participate in many of these courses, as well! **By the time students are confirmed, we want them to have grown in relationships with their peers, with the congregation across generations, and within their families!** It's our desire to provide you as families with a variety of opportunities for this growth and exploration.

OCTOBER 2022 - FEBRUARY 2023

CREDIT CATALOG

WORSHIP & MUSIC CREDITS

Worship Leadership “Sampler Platter”

There are a ton of roles to fill in worship leadership! Spend three Sundays between September and February as an acolyte (candle-lighting, assisting with offering/communion, among other tasks), a greeter, a reader, an usher, a crucifer (who carries the cross) or a cantor (chanting the Psalm). After three Sundays of worship leadership, you'll have achieved this credit toward the Worship category!

Leader: *Kim Sannerud*
ksannerud@normluth.org

1 Credit = Three Sundays of Leadership

Put on your Producer's Hat...

How's your eye for live event production? Did you know that over 150 people livestream our worship every week? If you've ever wanted to learn about live event production, audio/video work, or how we stream our events, spend a month of Sundays in our A/V booth, helping our congregation stay connected across distance!

Leader: *Loren Wolthoff*
lbwolthoff@normluth.org

1 Credit = One month of Sundays

“Sing Our Faith”

Singing is a significant part of many people's faith lives. And research shows that music helps experiences “stick” in our memories and bodies. Spend a month singing with the choir, or in a smaller ensemble! Whether you've been in choir since you were a young child or a complete newcomer to singing, give it a shot! God asks that we make a joyful noise, not a *perfect* noise!

Leader: *Greg Peterson*
gpeterson@normluth.org

1 Credit = One month+ of choir or a choral ensemble of peers

Independent Study

Is there something related to worship that makes you feel curious? That you want to understand better? What about worship do you want to learn that would make the experience of worship more meaningful for you and your family? Bring an idea for an independent study to Pastor Ian or another pastor or staff person for prior approval— or to seek help or direction!

Leader: *Pastor Ian McConnell*
imccconnell@normluth.org

MISSION & OUTREACH CREDITS

“Reading Buddies” at Normandale Housing Corporation

We have a long-standing partnership with Normandale Housing Corporation, stemming all the way back to its founding! Join us at Normandale House in South Minneapolis to eat dinner, read together, and play games. Come for the reading, stay for the friendships!

*Leaders: Diane Lindquist
dianelindquist99@gmail.com*

1 Credit = Participation in at least three Reading Buddies meetings

“Confirmation Goes Down the Toilet” packing event at VEAP

Every year in confirmation, we host a toilet paper and diaper drive here at Normandale, and deliver these products to one of our local mission partners, VEAP (*Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People*). Together, we will deliver products to the food pantry, and learn more about our partnership with them in the process!

*Leader: Pastor Ian McConnell
imcconnell@normluth.org*

1 Credit = Attendance & Participation at the packing event on November 9th

Quilting as Faith in Action

As followers of Jesus, we are called to pray for and support people in their spiritual needs, certainly, but also their physical needs! Join us for this event led by NLC member Judy Henderson as we learn how to tie quilts, and talk about how this simple act can provide so much more than just warmth for those who receive them. No previous quilting experience needed.

*Leader: Judy Henderson
(952) 240-9718*

1 Credit = Attendance & Participation on January 15th from 10:30-Noon

Independent Study

When you think of “Mission and Outreach,” what sparks your curiosity? Why do we work with other organizations outside our own congregation, and what does that have to do with our faith? Why do churches exist in the first place, when worship can happen anywhere? Bring an idea for an independent study to Pastor Ian or Pastor Rebecca for prior approval— or to seek help, direction, or partnership!

*Leaders: Pastor Rebecca Gamble
rgamble@normluth.org*

*Pastor Ian McConnell
imcconnell@normluth.org*

COMMUNITY CREDITS

Faith & Sports

What is the connection between sports and faith? Come together on September 25th as NLC's own A.J. Pettersen hosts a time of storytelling and conversation about his time playing for the Twins organization. Then, we'll spend the evening of September 28th at Target Field for a Twins game. Bring a parent or a friend!

Leader: *AJ Pettersen*
pettersen.aj@gmail.com

1 Credit = Attendance and participation at both September 25th and 28th events

Join the Christmas Bazaar "Maker Crew!"

The annual Christmas Bazaar is a super fun event and fundraiser that we host just before Christmas. But, it takes a lot of preparation! Join the "Maker Crew" to help prepare for the bazaar by crafting gift tags, decorations, and even products we'll sell on December 4th & 11th!

Leaders: *Lily Askegaard*
laskegaard@normluth.org
Pastor Ian McConnell
imccconnell@normluth.org

1 Credit = participation in two Christmas Bazaar "Maker Crew" events: November 2nd, 16th, and 30th

Faith & Heritage: Lefse Baking!

Who *doesn't* like eating lefse?! Whether you and your family make lefse together every year, or you've never even *heard* of it, we want you to come learn how to make it, and while we're together, we will talk about how just like family recipes, faith is passed from generation to generation. Parents and students are encouraged to participate together in this fun day!

Leader: *Judy Teigen*
judyteigen@gmail.com

1 Credit = Attendance & Participation for the full time on November 19th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Sunday School "Big Sibling"

Remember when you were in Sunday school, how cool all those big kids around church were? Well have we got news for you: YOU are now that awesome "big kid." Spend a month with a Sunday school classroom, helping kids with activities and getting to know a few of the youngest among us as a "Big Sibling" after worship!

Leader: *Lily Askegaard*
laskegaard@normluth.org

1 Credit = A month of Sundays

CONFIRMATION DATES SEP-FEB:

September 12	Parent/Student Confirmation Kickoff 7:00-7:45 p.m.
September 25	"Faith & Sports" Course (<i>register!</i>) 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
September 28th	Twins Game (<i>for those registered!</i>) 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. (roughly)
October 5	Parent/Student Learning 6:45-7:45 p.m.
October 12	Middle School Hangout 6:45-7:45 p.m.
October 19	<i>No Confirmation - MEA Break</i>
October 26	Middle School Hangout 6:45-7:45 p.m.
November 2	Parent/Student Learning 6:45-7:45 p.m.
	"Christmas Bazaar Maker Crew" 8:00-9:00 p.m.
November 9	No Hangout– VEAP Service Project (<i>register!</i>)
November 16	Middle School Hangout 6:45-7:45 p.m.
	"Christmas Bazaar Maker Crew" 8:00-9:00 p.m.
November 19	Lefse Baking! (<i>register!</i>) 1:00-4:00 p.m.
November 23	<i>No Confirmation - Thanksgiving Eve Worship</i>
November 30	Weekly Advent Worship Begins 6:30 p.m.
	"Christmas Bazaar Maker Crew" 8:00-9:00 p.m.
December 7	Parent/Student Learning 7:30-8:15 (<i>after Advent worship</i>)
December 14	<i>Advent Worship</i> 6:30 p.m.
December 21	<i>Advent Worship</i> 6:30 p.m.
December 28	<i>No Confirmation - Christmas Break</i>
January 4	Parent/Student Learning 6:45-7:45 p.m.
January 11	Middle School Hangout 6:45-7:45 p.m.
January 15	"Quilting as Faith in Action" (<i>register!</i>) 10:30 a.m. - Noon
January 18	Middle School Hangout 6:45-7:45 p.m.
January 25	Middle School Hangout 6:45-7:45 p.m.
February 1	Parent/Student Learning 6:45-7:45 p.m.
February 8	Middle School Hangout 6:45-7:45 p.m.
February 15	Middle School Hangout 6:45-7:45 p.m.
February 22	<i>Ash Wednesday Worship</i> 6:30 p.m.

Other course credit options, retreats, etc. will be announced periodically and sent to you via registration links.



Loving.
Learning.
Worshiping.
Serving.