

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

Middle School / Confirmation Orientation

September 11, 2016 – 9:30-10:30 AM

Before you leave today, please make sure you **register your child!** You can do so on your phone at shepherdlutheran.com/confirmation OR you can do so on the iPad that is being passed around.

Confirmation = Middle School Ministry

Our middle school ministry (6th – 8th grade) is the entirety of our Confirmation ministry. Each grade will participate in different portions of the program, as described below.

- **Component 1: Sunday School**
 - Discussion groups with adult leaders reading through select books of the Bible (3-year cycle)
- **Component 2: First Communion (6th) / Catechism Classes (7th & 8th)**
 - First Communion classes with Pastor Aaron (6th grade and older) during Lent of each year
 - Ten Sunday afternoon Catechism classes with Pastor Chris (7th & 8th grade together) walking through the Six Chief Parts (over the course of two years)
- **Component 3: Catalyst**
 - Twice-a-month Sunday evening youth group gatherings for middle schoolers with Nick and other student and adult leaders (every 2nd and 4th Sunday during the school year)
- **Component 4: Camps, Retreats, and Mission Trips**
 - Periodic events and retreats that will be open to all middle schoolers
 - A specific Confirmation-only retreat for 7th and 8th graders as they work on their Confirmation projects
- *All this culminating in a Confirmation weekend with a luncheon, faith stories, and Rite of Confirmation.*

Important Dates

Special events open to all middle schoolers, including friends!

Youth Quake	February 24-26, 2017 (about \$130)
Summer Serve	TBD, usually June (about \$100)
Camp Eagle	July 29-August 2, 2017 (about \$315)

8th Grade Only—Open to all incoming 9th-12th graders next summer:

Los Angeles Mission Trip	July 9-14, 2017 (exact dates TBD, about \$900)
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6th Grade First Communion (or older)

First Communion Classes	March 12, 19, April 2, 9, 2017 (tentative)
First Communion	Maundy Thursday, April 13, 2017

7th & 8th Grade Catechism Classes

Catechism Classes	September 18, 2016
	October 16, 2016
	November 20, 2016
	January 15, 2017
	March 19, 2017
Confirmation Retreat	April 28-29, 2017
Confirmation Luncheon	May 6, 2017
Confirmation Sunday	May 7, 2017
	9:30 Faith Stories in Gym
	10:45 Rite of Confirmation during service
	(7 th graders will help with service)

Catechism Class Outline (7th & 8th Grade Only)

Curriculum Outline

Year A – Word & Sacrament

1. Grand Narrative of Scripture
2. Bible: The Power of the Word
3. Baptism
4. Communion
5. Prayer and Worship

Year B – Law and Gospel

1. The Ten Commandments: The First Table (1-3)
2. The Ten Commandments: The Second Table (4-10)
3. The Apostle's Creed: The First Article (God and Creation)
4. The Apostle's Creed: The Second Article (Jesus)
5. The Apostle's Creed: The Third Article (Holy Spirit, Church, and Last Things)

Class Schedule

Lunch	12:00-12:45
Session 1	12:45-1:30
Break	
Session 2	1:40-2:25
Break	
Session 3	2:35-3:10
Game or Social Activity (if time allows)	
Conclude	3:30

For any questions regarding the Student Ministry or Confirmation, please contact Nick at nick@shepherdlutheran.com or 210-614-3742.