



2009 - 2010

Confirmation

Handbook



# *Church Directory*

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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Broomfield, CO 80020

303-469-4004

webpage: <http://www.cross-of-christ.org>

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## *Small Group Guides*

Eighth Grade Guides:

Donna

Bill

Seventh & Sixth Grade Guides:

Rainer

Jody



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# *Purpose / Mission*

The confirmation journey is an intentional time set aside during a young person's life for them to learn about, think about, and make the Christian faith their own. In our congregation, we involve young people in this program during their 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years, with their *Affirmation of Baptism* taking place in the fall of 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

When babies or children are brought to be baptized, parents and sponsors make faith promises for them.

*"You are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that they may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace."*

-Evangelical Lutheran Worship, pg 227  
Service of Holy Baptism

In the confirmation program, young people learn about what it means to be a Lutheran Christian, and on Confirmation Sunday **affirm those baptismal promises for themselves**, saying

*"In faith, I turn to Christ."*

At Cross of Christ, the confirmation program is a time to learn, grow, and feel a part of this Christian community with other youth and adults. It is NOT a journey toward a "graduation," but another step on the life-long journey of faith that extends from birth to death. We particularly want to partner with parents during these years as you guide your child in developing a stronger relationship with Christ.

## *Large Group/ Small Group*

Each confirmation lesson is divided into a large group session and a small group session.

During the large group session, one of the pastors teaches the main lesson for the evening. This is done in several ways, which include a PowerPoint presentation, interactive quizzes, games, object lessons, questions, discussions, sharing personal experiences, and several other ways. The main lessons that we focus on include Old and New Testament, the Small Catechism, and Lutheran History.

The small group time is designed to give youth in their own age group a chance to discuss the topic and how it relates to life. They do this in groups of 5-8 youth and are led by one of our small group guides. All of our small group guides have experience in leading small group discussions. The discussions focus on how the lesson applies to their life and how they are shaped by their faith. This is done through sharing Highs & Lows, going over definitions of terms, and discussion questions.

# Requirements

The requirements are a main part of the successful completion of the confirmation program at Cross of Christ.

Should you find yourself unable to complete any of the below requirements, please contact Pastor Ann, Pastor Kathy, and Jeremy.

**Attendance:** Attend confirmation **lessons** and **worship**.

- If you are going to be **Absent** from class, please call the church office to let us know.
- All missed lessons will be made up on the *Here We Stand Student Website* (pg 12); due by May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- **Attend** the *Affirmation of Baptism* service for this year's 9<sup>th</sup> grade class on **October 25, 2009 @ the 11:15 am service**.

If you are absent from confirmation classes more than 50% of the time, you will be required to complete a make-up project (*in addition to the make-up lessons online*) that displays your understanding of the topics covered. (*This is the same procedure we use for individuals who join the confirmation program after their sixth grade year.*)

See Jeremy for project suggestions and approval. Projects are due by September 1, 2010.

**Worship Notes: 15 worship notes per year / 45 Total.**

- Whatever is not completed one year will be carried over to the next year
- You are allowed **5 extra** worship notes per year that will be counted towards your next years total.
- **Two for One** Sunday will be **October 25, 2009**.  
(*Student will get credit if a parent sits with them and also does a worship note*)
- Parents **Must Sign** the Worship Notes form.
- Turn completed worship notes into hanging folder by the main office door.
- You may do sermon notes at other churches when visiting (*Not to exceed 3 unless otherwise approved by Pastor Kathy or Jeremy Marburger*)

# Requirements Continued

**Church Visits:** Attend **2 out of 3** scheduled church visits per year (the large group will attend together, along with small group guides; services are on Sunday mornings).  
**December 6<sup>th</sup>, March 14<sup>th</sup>, & May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Mentoring:** Youth will participate in mentoring. (page 8)

**Community Service:** Complete **3 hours** of service per year *to be completed with the church.*

- Here is a list of service opportunities that have been planned to this point, watch for more opportunities
  - CROP Walk, Sept. 26
  - Project Glean, Oct. 3
  - Rainbow Trail Grace Race, Oct. 10
  - Team Trinity Broomfield FISH project, November
  - Sandwiches for the Homeless, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri. every month

\*Participate in Small Group Service Learning Project (pg 9)

**Worship Help:** Volunteer regularly in worship services  
(*at least 6 times a year*)

- Lector (read the lessons)
- Assisting Minister (*eighth grade only*)
- Acolyte (open to all, *required for sixth grade*)
- Communion Assistant
- Usher
- Music Ministry (chimes, praise team, choir, or etc.)
- Altar Guild (set-up/clean-up for Communion)
- Assist in nursery (during 9 & 11:15 am worship)
- Children's Church Helper (during 9 am worship)

**Faith Talks:** Complete 2 sessions per year. **October 20, 2009 & February 16, 2010** (see page 8 for more details)

**Memory Work:**

- Books of the Bible (2009-2010)
- Lord's Prayer (2010-2011)
- 10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed (2011-2012)

# 8th (9th) Grade Requirements

**Seder Meal:** Passover is the ancient Jewish festival of Israel's deliverance from slavery in Egypt. For many, many generations, it has been observed with a feast called the Seder, which was once a family meal and a worship service with much praying and much eating. The **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Students** and their parents are invited for special evening celebrating this festival. On **March 30, 2010** (Tuesday) these families will be coming together for this Seder Meal. In Observing the Passover Seder, we as Christians are borrowing a tradition from the living faith of Judaism. According to the New Testament, the Seder was the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples, and was the setting for his institution of the Lord's Supper. This will be a wonderful opportunity for those families.

**Interviews:** Each youth meets with Pastor Ann, Pastor Kathy, or Jeremy to discuss confirmation and their faith statements with the youth individually. This is done in the Fall of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

**Faith Statement/Personal Bible Verse:** Youth write a personal statement of faith. In getting ready to make promises in front of God and the congregation, youth share what their faith means to them. They also choose a Bible verse that has personal meaning.

**9th Grade Retreat:** Youth have an overnight retreat at the end of the summer to discuss the 5 promises that they will make during the service of Affirmation of Baptism and what to expect in high school.

**Council Meeting:** The youth come to council and share their faith statements and express their desire to become a full member of the congregation. The council votes to approve the youth.

# *Expectations*

The expectations for the confirmation program, are not necessarily strict rules, but more guidelines for behavior and participation in the program.

- Bring your Confirmation Bag with you to every lesson (this bag should include your Bible, Lutheran Handbook, binder, & writing utensil).
- Family Devotions every day (suggest “Taking Faith Home” devotional insert or devotional of your own).
- Cell Phone Usage:
  - **Youth:** we expect you to leave your phones off during Confirmation & Youth Activities.
  - **Parents:** please refrain from calling your youth, unless there is an emergency. (When you call at the end of youth group or confirmation lessons, you interrupt the closing time and often prayer time.)
- Respect yourself and others by:
  - Listening during the large and small group times.
  - Participating in discussions.
  - Allowing others to learn.
- Sunday School Attendance:
  - Middle school Sunday School classes are offered every week. S.S. begins at 10:15am.
  - Youth are encouraged to be a part of Sunday School in addition to Confirmation lessons on Tuesdays.
  - This year’s curriculum is Grapple by Group Publishing and designed to help youth grapple with their faith. Topics for this year include: My Relationship with God, My Relationship with Myself, and My Relationship with Other Christians.

# *Mentoring Program*

The purpose of mentoring is to develop meaningful relationships between adults and youth, where both youth and adults can grow and learn spiritually from each other. This is a one on one time for developing this relationship.

The mentor and youth sessions are designed to give students another adult in their life who will pray for them, and share in their faith development.

Each student will be responsible for finding their own mentor by **December 1<sup>st</sup>**. They should be a confirmed Christian that is active in their congregation. There will be a Parent/ Mentor meeting on **Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm** and **Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm**.

*(Parent and mentor MUST attend one of these meetings.)*

The mentoring sessions will take place between **February 1, 2010 and May 18, 2010**.

# *Parent/ Youth Faith Talks*

The **Parent/Youth Faith Talks** are designed to give parents and youth a chance to talk directly about their faith in relationship to life.

Parents are encouraged to attend large group time with their youth at 6:30 pm, followed by a time that parents and youth are to go and follow a faith discussion guide. There will be no small group discussion those evenings.

**Dates** for parent/youth faith talk sessions are: **October 20, 2009 & February 16, 2010**.

# *Small Group Service Learning Project*

Each small group will adopt a service learning project. The **purpose** of the service learning project is:

- \* for the small groups to practice becoming aware of a “peace and justice” issue concerning the world (*such as hunger and poverty*)
- \* to learn about organizations that work to correct these injustices
- \* become advocates (*the voice for those who can't speak out for themselves*) for those in the midst of these issues
- \* share with the congregation ways in which we can help correct some of these injustices

During this project the small group will research an organization that “works for Peace & Justice in the World”. *Examples* of organizations are Free the Children, Nothing but Nets, From Me to We, Compassion International, and Heifer Project International.

After researching the topic the small group will put together a presentation for the congregation and prepare a display board to set up in the fellowship hall.

Each member of the small group is expected to participate in deciding which organization they will learn about, researching the topic, presenting it to the congregation (on a Sunday in **February 2010**), and helping with the display (set up in the fellowship hall on **March 7, 2010**).

The members of the small groups are expected to be present to answer questions from the congregation both on the day they present their project to the congregation and on the day the displays are set up in the fellowship hall (March 7, 2010).

# Confirmation Schedule

**Confirmation Lesson Schedule**, including church visits, & other important confirmation dates.

*Lessons from Here We Stand student site are italicized. These are the lessons to make up online.*

**Tuesday Night Live** will coincide with Confirmation Nights. Dinner will be served from 5:45 pm - 6:30 pm. Please sign up in the narthex for those meals. Adult Education classes will also be provided for parents from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm.

## September

- Sept. 1: Introduction to Bible (*The 5 Biggest Misconceptions about the Bible*)  
Sept. 15: Old Testament (*Sin*)  
Sept. 29: Confirmation *Small Group – Fun Night*

## October

- Oct. 6: Old Testament (*Abraham & Sarah*)  
Oct. 20: Old Testament (*Joseph*)  
*Parent / Youth Faith Talk*  
**Sunday, Oct. 25:** Affirmation of Baptism Service, 11:15 am  
**Oct. 27:** **Middle School Gathering Registration Due**

## November

- Nov. 3: Old Testament (*Moses/Pharaoh*)  
Nov. 10: **6:00 pm Confirmation Service Night**  
Broomfield FISH Service Project  
Nov. 17: Old Testament (*Wilderness to Land*)

## December

- Dec. 1: Old Testament (*King David*)  
*Mentor Sheets DUE*  
**Sunday, Dec. 6: Confirmation Church Visit**  
Dec. 15: Old Testament (*Israel*)

# Confirmation Schedule

## January

Jan. 5: New Testament (Birth of Jesus)

**Jan. 15-17: Middle School Youth Gathering**

Jan. 19: New Testament (Wilderness Temptation)

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Funeral Home Visit**

**Parent / Mentor meeting - 7:30 PM**

**Sun., Jan. 24: Parent / Mentor Meeting - 1:00 pm**

## February

**Feb. 1: Mentoring Starts**

Feb. 2: New Testament (Call of Disciples)

Feb. 16: New Testament (Parables of the Lost and Found)

**Parent / Youth Faith Talk**

## March

Mar. 2: New Testament (The Last Supper)

**Sunday, March 14: Confirmation Church Visit**

Mar. 16: New Testament (Crucifixion)

Mar. 30: Seder Meal for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
*Fun Night for 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade small groups*

## April

Apr. 6: New Testament (Pentecost)

Apr. 20: New Testament (Call of Saul)

## May

**Sunday, May 2: Confirmation Church Visit**

May 4: Review

May 18: **CONFIRMATION GAME SHOW** (Families Invited!)

## *Student Website*

The *Here We Stand* confirmation curriculum comes with a Student Website for the youth to use (<http://www.hwsstudent.org>). Each youth will get their own login information. On this website there is extra homework helps, quizzes, Winking Luther webisodes, devotions, and other useful tools. Parents can also go online with the youth to see what this site is all about.

This site will be helpful for all youth to learn more about what is being taught in confirmation. There is a schedule that you can check to see which lessons are coming up if you want to look ahead, as well as, if you miss a lesson to catch up.

Brief instructions for logging in to make up lessons:

- 1) Go to <http://www.hwsstudent.org>
- 2) A link to “log in” is at the top of the page.
- 3) Use the *Username* and *Password* that you will receive after Jeremy gets you registered. Temporary password will be e-mailed to you from Here We Stand Confirmation.
- 4) Use either the “Calendar” or “Class Connection” to access the make-up lessons.
- 5) E-mail the answers to Jeremy so we can keep track.

**Make up lessons are due by May 18<sup>th</sup>.**

## *Middle School Youth Gathering*

The 2008 Rocky Mountain Synod Middle School Youth Gathering will be on **Fri., January 15<sup>th</sup> - Sun., January 17<sup>th</sup>**. This event is held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Colorado Springs. The theme this year is “**ONE**”. This is a great opportunity for students to sing, dance, play games, do service work, and explore their faith with over 700 other Middle School Youth from around our Synod. Scholarships available.

**Registration Deadline: October 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Cost: \$100 (due with registration by Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>)**

# *Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Confirmation Week*

Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp is an ELCA Summer Christian Camp located in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of southern Colorado. During this week long program youth will get their first chance at the ropes course, white water raft the Arkansas River, and climb Eagle Peak. They will experience Bible Study, Games, Arts and Crafts, & Archery! All this while hanging out with kids their own age and very cool counselors. This week is at the beginning of June. The registration fee is \$335. All students will get a \$50 scholarship from the congregation; additionally, camp Scholarships are also available to help with the cost. **15 spaces are reserved for our church. Registration deadline through church is December 1, 2009.**

**Camp Sunday is October 11, 2009.** Come and learn about what it means to spend a week at camp.

If you are unable to attend confirmation camp the week that we go as a church, you are welcome and encouraged to sign up for another week at either Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp or Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp.

## *Camp Scholarships*

Camp Scholarships are available for anyone going to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp or Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp during the Summer. This scholarship is designed to help cover the cost of going to camp and to help promote and support our Lutheran Summer Camps in the Rocky Mountain Synod. Scholarship forms are available on the Youth Board or in the church office. Please turn them in to Pastor Kathy or Jeremy Marburger.

# *Team Trinity*

Team Trinity is the youth group for the 6th - 12th grade youth at Cross of Christ. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 6:30 - 8:00 pm (this is the same time frame confirmation on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays).

During these youth nights we play games like Ultimate Frisbee, Capture the Flag, and Kickball; host Video Game events/tournaments; group building activities; Bible study; and have time for fellowship (just plain 'ol hanging out with friends).

In addition to these youth nights, we get together from time to time on the weekends for various activities like hanging out at the Corn Maze, Boondocks, Adventure Golf, Cosmic Bowling, Lock-Ins, and other fun activities.

We have several service projects that we participate in throughout the year including helping at Broomfield FISH (the local food bank), walking in the CROP Walk, Christmas Caroling to shut-ins, "Work" Days to help church members clean up their yards or help with other tasks, stuff gift bags for Meals-on-Wheels, and other smaller projects from time to time.

Check out the Youth Board in the narthex for updates, sign up sheets, and photos of events.

Parents are encouraged to look at the sign up sheets as well to know when we need adult sponsors. We need to have at least one adult male and one adult female sponsor at every event. If we don't have that ratio then the event can't happen.

# Worship Help Record Form 2009-2010

Youth Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*DUE BY MAY 18, 2010\***

As part of confirmation you are required to serve in worship at least **6 times per year**. There are many opportunities to serve in worship.

- Lector (read the lessons)
- Assisting Minister (*eighth grade only*)
- Acolyte (open to all, *required for sixth grade*)
- Communion Assistant
- Usher
- Music Ministry (chimes, praise team, choir, or etc.)
- Altar Guild (set-up/clean-up for Communion)
- Assist in nursery (during 9 & 11:15 am worship)
- Children's Church Helper (during 9 am worship)

**Please keep a record of the Sundays you serve in worship.**

**Write the Sunday/service and the position that you served (ex. Lector, usher, etc.)**

**\* You may also sign a Bulletin next to your name and turn the bulletin into Jeremy for your record of worship help.**

**Sunday**

**Position**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

Turn into Jeremy when complete.



# Community Service Record Form 2009-2010

Youth Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
**\*DUE BY MAY 18, 2010\***

You are required to do at least **3 hours / per year** of community service as part of Confirmation. The church has many opportunities for service and the youth group will schedule service events throughout the year.

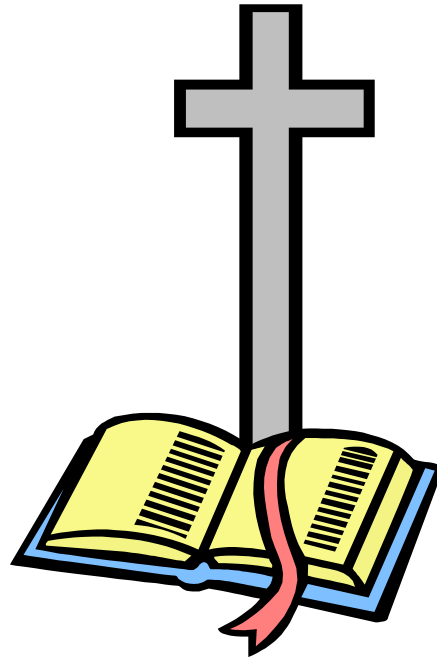
At least 3 of your hours must be done with the church. You may use other community service through school or other organizations to count towards the total.

After completing community service hours, fill out the bottom part of this sheet and have the Person in Charge sign the form.

**\*This form is to be turned into Jeremy when complete.**

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<u>Type of Service Work</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Signature</u>
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____



We thank you for working with us in the  
faith formation of your youth.

If at any time you have questions or  
concerns regarding the confirmation  
program feel free to call Jeremy  
Marburger or Pastor Kathleen Armstrong  
at the church office 303.469.4004 or call  
the youth's small group guide.