

Greetings,

January 17, 2018

Here is some critical information for our 8th grade Confirmation students and parents:

Confirmation services will be at 1:00 and 3:00 pm on **Sunday, May 20**. We have two separate services because of the size of our classes. Here is how the class will be divided:

1:00 pm Service (by group):

**LaCroix
Stefan/Sorebo
Kloster/Letto
Burkett
Seeman
Wheeler/Dodd/Lineer**

3:00 pm Service (by group):

**Newman
Pankoff/VanWyk
Schindel
Swenson/Shoemaker
Rausch/Baer
Nauman/Swenson
Johnson/Hopia**

If you are unsure which small group your student belongs to, please check the attachment. It is essential that on May 20th the Confirmand be here **at least half an hour before** the service starts. When inviting guests, be sure to let them know that the sanctuary will fill up and that there is overflow parking at Oppidan (Kowalskis), on William Street, George Street, Water Street, and at TCF & Wells Fargo on Water Street. Carpooling is highly recommended.

Confirmation class photo night: 6:45 pm, Wednesday, April 25 (immediately following large group that night). We will begin promptly at 6:45pm, so please have your 8th grader here by 6:15 pm. Appropriate attire is requested, meaning no shorts, t-shirts, baseball caps, or tank tops – best described as “church clothes.” Nice, clean, dressy clothes would be fabulous!! Each child and guide will be receiving a 5X7 of the entire group together. Photos can be taken that evening by guides or parents if you choose. We should be done by 7:30 p.m., but don’t be surprised if we run a few minutes late – it’s a lot of people in one picture!

8th Grade Finale Night - 5:45 pm - 10:15 pm, Friday, May 18: Our final 8th grade *mandatory* retreat is from 5:45–10:15 pm -- ending **with a 9:15 pm family worship!** During this evening, we will be rehearsing for our Confirmation Sunday services and reviewing expectations with each small group. They will each spend some time personalizing their Confirmation Stole during the evening. We will have a time to have snacks and share our Faith Projects within each group. The **Faith Project** will be worked on with their Mentors (session #4 of the mentoring materials) and should be brought to Finale Night (or before) to share with their small groups. **Please make EVERY effort to have your 8th grader attend this very important evening.**

Finale Night Worship and Letters to Students– Friday, May 18th, 9:15 pm. Parents, grandparents, mentors and other significant folks in your confirmand’s life are asked to come secretively at the end of

the Finale evening and celebrate with our students. **Parents, please take some time to write a letter to your student expressing how you feel about them, their faith, and their decision to be confirmed.** You may also choose to tell them how much you love them, what you enjoy about them, and even talk about what you hope for them in life. It is powerful if you invite such letters from family members, mentors, baptismal sponsors and other important people in their lives. This is an excellent opportunity to have meaningful faith conversation with your child. Please take advantage of this time. It can be very simple or something more. It is up to you. You will present your letter(s) to your student during the worship service, but **KEEP IT A SECRET** so that it will be a surprise for them.

Last Wednesday of Confirmation – May 16th, 6:15 – 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Celebration Night and final small group together! Please remember to have your confirmands express their thanks to their guides – it's a perfect night to celebrate that relationship!

If you have any questions, please contact either of us or Brenda Lund (brenda.lund@mountcalvary.org).

Pastor David Olson & Pastor Aaron Werner

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church
301 County Road 19
Excelsior, MN 55331
952-474-8893
pastor.dave@mountcalvary.org
pastor.aaron@mountcalvary.org