

Calvary Lutheran Church

Confirmation



**2024-2025
Parent/Student
Handbook & Calendar**

2024-25 Calvary Education Calendar

6/14/2024
27 Wednesdays (class/meal/worship)

	WED *Communion ▼▼▼	CONFIRMATION 6:30-8:15 7 th Grade Audra Nesland 391-6633	CONFIRMATION 6:30-8:15 8 th Grade Audra Nesland 391-6633
SPECIAL EVENTS ▼▼▼	SEPT 4	Teacher Training 6:15-6:45 Confirmation Teacher Training	Teacher Training 6:15-6:45 Confirmation Teacher Training
	SEPT 11*	Norms/ Commandments 1-3	NORMS/ Getting started with the bible/ Communion and usher introduction??
	SEPT 18	Commandments 1-3	Creation
Sept 28 & 29 Outlaw Conf Retreat	SEPT 25	Commandments 4-6	The Human Condition
	OCT 2	Commandments 4-6	The Flood
	OCT 9*	Commandments 7-10	Sarah, Hagar, & Abraham
	OCT 16	Commandments 7-10	Moses & Pharaoh
	OCT 23	Law & Gospel	Wilderness to Land
	OCT 30 – No Class Trunk or Treat		
	NOV 6	Saint & Sinner	The 10 Commandments
	NOV 13*	Devil	Kind David
	NOV 20	Confession & Forgiveness	<i>A Split Kingdom</i>
	NOV 27– No Class Thanksgiving		
	Dec 4	Bondage of the Will	Exile and Return
	DEC 11*	Freedom of a Christian	Prophets of Israel
	DEC 18	The Neighbor	Prophets of Judah
	DEC 25 – No Class Christmas Break		
	JAN 1 – No Class New Year Break		
	JAN 8*	Luther’s Catechism	The Birth of Jesus
	JAN 15	Martin Luther	The Magi
	JAN 22	The Reformation	The Wilderness Temptation
	JAN 29	The Reformers	Jesus Calls the First Disciples
	FEB 5*	Lutheran Confessions	The Beatitudes
	FEB 12	Apostles’ Creed Article 1	The Feeding of 5,000
	FEB 19	Apostles’ Creed Article 1	The Good Samaritan
	FEB 26	Apostles’ Creed Article 2	<i>Parables of Lost and Found</i>
	MAR 5* ASH WED	Apostles’ Creed Article 2	<i>Sheep & Goats</i>
	MAR 12	<i>The Cross</i>	<i>The Last Supper</i>
	MAR 19	Apostles’ Creed Article 3	<i>The Crucifixion</i>
- April 13 PALM SUN	MAR 26	Apostles’ Creed Article 3	The Resurrection/8 th Statement
- April 17 Maundy Thursday – 5 th Grade 1 st Communion~ (~ 5 th G Comm Alt Sunday ?)	APR 2	Justification by Faith 7 th Faith Project	Pentecost/8 th Statement
- April 20 Easter – break 14-21	APR 9* Last Wed Night	Easter Stations	Easter Stations
	April 26-27		April 26 - Conf. Rehearsal/Picture/Banquet April 27 - Confirmation Sunday 9:30 am

What is confirmation?

The worship service at the end of your confirmation study is called the Service of Affirmation of Baptism. You will be able to tell the people around you what you believe; you affirm (or say yes) your baptism and all it means. You will hear the promises given to you when you were baptized, and you will get to say, "Yes, I believe those promises belong to me!" We put our Confirmation Ministry together to help you understand what you will say "yes" about.

Why do we do confirmation anyway?

Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther traveled to the peasant country to find out how the church was doing. He was not pleased with what he saw. People did not understand the basics of their faith, so Martin Luther decided to do something about it. He wrote the Small Catechism so parents could teach their children about faith and learn something themselves along the way. All these years later, here you are on the receiving end of the Small Catechism, and we are still helping young people learn about their faith and strengthen their ties to the Church. We are not doing it just because we have always done it. We do confirmation because God commands us to (Deuteronomy 11:19). We live in a crazy world full of hard choices. We are surrounded by demanding voices. Confirmation is a good idea because at confirmation you hear about the biggest choice of all: what God says about you in your baptism. "Yes! You are Mine and I will never let you go!" That is a good thing to know and something you can depend on, too!

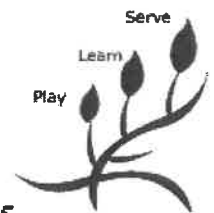
Deuteronomy 11:19 "Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

Calvary Lutheran Education Committee

The Program

"I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit. But you cannot do anything without me."

-John 15:5



Calvary Confirmation blends

fellowship with a "back to basics" approach to Christian education. Kids have fun, form friendships, and learn at the same time. Learning is accomplished in a small group setting.

❖ **First Branch - LEARNING COMPONENTS**

Opening: Set the "pace". Build a mood of joy, get teens into the teaching space on time, and do some fun preview/review of key teaching points.

Presentation (Large Group): Provide the "punch". Teach the content using multiple teaching methods.

Small Group: Provide "personal care" which only small groups can do. The objective is to bond with the group and process the lesson.

❖ **Second Branch - MISSION OPPORTUNITIES**

Opportunities to experience joy, value, and meaning through service with a group of friends.

❖ **Third Branch - FELLOWSHIP EVENTS** Planned events that build identity, trust, care, and healthy relationships between young people and adults. Learning, service, and fellowship become the three branches of the faith journey.

Life in a Small Group

- ❖ **Purpose:** What are the Confirmation Ministry Small Groups all about anyway?
They are about getting to know each other, getting to know our Lord, and getting to know His Church.
- ❖ **Who:** Who are the small groups for? For you, the student, that is who. That is how God works. He wants His gifts to be for you. The small groups are for you, for your friends, for anyone who needs a place to belong, to share and care for one another.
- ❖ **Visitors:** Does this mean I can invite my friends who do not belong to Calvary?
Sure. That would be a good way to put your faith to work in the real world. All we ask is that you help visitors in your group understand and live by the Ground Rules.
- ❖ **Study:** What are we going to study in our small groups? You...Your world...Your God. We will work to understand them all a little bit better by studying Martin Luther's Small Catechism and the Bible.
- ❖ **Agenda:** What do you do in the group meetings? You will gather in a large group for announcements and the lesson presentation. Following the large group, you will break out into your small group which has these parts:
 - Check-in: find out how everyone is doing
 - Scratch the surface: take a first look at the topic for the night
 - Dig deeper: use the Bible and Catechism to understand the night's topic better -
 - Take it home: talk about what it all means for your life in the real world -
 - Take it to God: pray about things that concern you, thank God for things you are happy about, tell Him what you need
- ❖ **Guides:** Who leads our small group? Each small group will have adult guides to help lead the discussions

Expectations of Students at Calvary Lutheran

Participation

By entering into the confirmation program at Calvary Lutheran Church, students agree to join in as much as possible and to make an honest attempt to participate in the program's various commitments. Everyone participates in small groups, but no one dominates. It is our belief that this involvement and devotion sets up students for the most faithful and genuine confirmation experience.

Behavior

It is expected that students will pay attention, participate, and refrain from behaviors that distract the group from participating. Everyone is given the right to their own opinion, and "dumb" questions are encouraged and respected. Everyone treats others as lovable, valuable, and capable children of God. This expectation includes any time confirmation students are gathered, whether for meals, in class, on retreat, or in small or large groups.

Consequences for not following expectations.

1. **Request-** Student will be asked to quiet down, pay attention, stop distracting others etc.
2. **Reset-** Student will be moved to a different area or adult will move into student's space.
3. **Remove-** Student will be taken out of the room. If necessary, if a student is removed, he/she will spend some time with either Pastor Randy or Audra Nesland and talk about what may be going on that is causing this behavior.
4. If **behavior** continues, parents will be asked to come to class with their student.

Cell Phones and Other Portable Electronic Devices

Cell phones and other electronic distractions (tablets, gaming devices, etc.) are NOT allowed during confirmation class. CLC follows the Rapid City Area School District Cell phone/Electronic device policy and cell phones are not allowed in any classroom in the RCAS district. Phones/or electronic devices may be collected by small group guides at the beginning of class and returned at the end. If you need to reach out to your student during class, please contact your child's confirmation guide directly.

Confidentiality

Any personal information that is shared in the meeting is never repeated outside the meeting.

Support

Permission is given to call upon each other [especially your Guide] in time of need, even in the middle of the night.

Respect & Take Care of Calvary Lutheran & Property of Others

We need to take care of Calvary Lutheran Church, classrooms, youth room, and church equipment from classroom items to sports equipment. Each is part of God's church and must be treated with respect. When you are guests in others' houses or cars, you should show the same respect. If you make a mess or see a mess, clean it up. "We are each responsible for our own conduct." Galatians 6:5

Confirmation Worship Notes

Purpose Why do we have to take Worship Notes? There is no secret here. The reason for Worship Notes is that Christians go to church. Worship notes keeps you engaged and helps you remember what you are learning during worship. If you are going to have a living faith, there is no way you can do it without hearing God's Word in worship. The two go together like peanut butter and jelly, and green eggs and ham. Requiring Worship Notes of you makes sure you and your family hear God's promises about you.

How What do you do with Worship Notes? If you have never done Worship Notes before, it is as simple as anything. All you do is fill in the bubbles/spots about worship. As you listen to the sermon, write down anything important that you hear, following the directions on the form.

Where Where do I get a blank Worship Notes? At the back of the sanctuary on the usher table, you will find the forms. Put completed notes in the container provided on the same table.

How Many What is the basic expectation? We encourage you to complete 10 Worship Notes by the 13th of March. Remember that there are many different worship services from September - March.

8th grade Retreat (Sept. 28 at 11:30 am — Sept. 29 at 2:00 noon)

Calvary Lutheran Church

Confirmation Covenant 2024-2025

A covenant is a binding agreement. God made a covenant with His people including Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Exodus 2:24-25). Jesus fulfills the covenant between God and his children.

I, _____, have chosen to complete **MY ELECTIVE** and the **REQUIRED ITEMS** listed below in order to be confirmed at Calvary Lutheran Church.

REQUIRED each Confirmation year:

- **Participate in Wednesday night confirmation activities** [Worship, Large group & small group activities]
- **Attend the Fall Confirmation RETREAT September 28-29 at Outlaw Ranch**
- [Students unable to attend will be required to do an alternative retreat assignment due end of Dec]
- **Complete 10 Worship Notes** [Blank forms available at the back of the sanctuary]
- **SERVE COMMUNION 2 Wednesdays with my Small Group at Worship OR COLLECT OFFERING/USHER 2 Wednesdays with my Small Group at Worship**
- **HELP with 1 Wednesday DINNER with my Small Group at Calvary** [serving or clean-up]
- **Reading through Confirmation Handbook together with parents**
- **Each Small Group will come up with its own Mission/Community Service Project**
- **7th GRADE only: Small Group Faith Project**
- **8th GRADE only: Individual Faith Statement**

ATTENDANCE: I will participate in Wednesday night confirmation activities: **Worship** service attendance; **Outreach:** group community service; **Learning:** Pastor-led large group teaching followed by small group discussions; **Fellowship:** Large & small group events. If I miss class, I will inform my adult leader so I can receive any missed lessons.

RESPECT: I will abide by the confirmation handbook and be respectful to all. We will address disagreements in a biblical manner and avoid gossip or slander.

PARENTS: I will be a support to my child(ren) and live out the promises I made at their Baptism by walking alongside and learning with them in their faith journey, attending worship services with them, praying with and for them as they prepare for Confirmation. I will assist my child to complete online or in person homework that may be assigned.

Signatures: Student _____ Date _____

Parent _____ Date _____

Guide/Coordinator _____

