

CONFIRMATION HANDBOOK 2024-2025

Immanuel Lutheran Church (LCMS)
700 Division Street, PO Box 147
Brownton, MN 55312
www.immanuellutheranbrownton.org

Pastor, Rev. Allan Reed- (office) 320.328.5522, (home) 320.328.9987, (cell) 320.510.0053
rallanreed@gmail.com, FACEBOOK- Immanuel Lutheran Church

What is Confirmation?

I. Faithful in Worship and Bible Study

It is expected that ...

- A. Your family be encouraged to attend worship frequently at 9am Sunday.
- B. Confirmands are active participants in worship through acolyting and other special opportunities.
Worship Assistant guidelines:
 1. The schedule for worship assistants is found on the back of the Immanuel calendar that comes in *The Caller* that is available on the church website. Also, printed copies of the calendar are often available at the top of the stairs in the Narthex.
 2. You are to dress appropriately. Please wear dress clothes and dress shoes.
 3. You are to arrive 15 minutes before the worship service so that you have sufficient time to prepare.
 4. If you cannot fulfill your responsibility, you need to find your own replacement THEN call the church office (328-5522) to notify us. On the first day of class you will receive a class list, so that you can find your own substitute.
- C. **Confirmands will take at least 2 sermon notes every month from October through April for a total of 14.** The purpose of this activity is to equip each confirmand with the ability to tie the worship service to what is being experienced in confirmation class and the world around them. Sermon notes must be taken at Immanuel Lutheran, Brownton. If there are blanks on the sermon note sheet, the form will be returned to the student to complete. A packet of Sermon Note forms (14-total) is being provided to you this evening. Sermon notes will not be graded, but failure to perform this responsibility will cause a delay in the student being confirmed. *** (Also, check page 3.)
- D. Pastor's Bible Class on Sunday morning is an opportunity that our congregation provides to deepen and enrich the faith of young people as well as adults. Christian education is something we should never take lightly. Therefore, participation by confirmands and parents is highly encouraged. Parents, also, have the opportunity as well as the duty and responsibility to serve as Sunday School teachers as opportunity permits.

II. Faithful in Confirmation Study

- A. **Each confirmand is responsible for making it to class each Wednesday from 6pm –7:15pm (subject to change during the Lenten season). Regular health appointments (doctor, dental, eye, etc.) should not be scheduled during appointed class times. Sporting events and practices are not excused absences.** Any unexcused absence could result in a delay in your confirmation. In case of illness it is the parent's responsibility to notify Pastor before class time on Wednesday. In case of bad weather, cancellation of classes will correspond with the GSL school district. For those students & parents who are in a different school district than GSL, please pay close attention to cancellation notifications for GSL and please notify the church office if your child will be unable to attend class.

Absentee work responsibilities:

1. It is the responsibility of the confirmand to come to Immanuel to get his/her homework when they are absent.
2. Make-up work is due the following Wednesday.
3. If a Memory Quiz is missed, the student will be expected to complete the missed quiz the next scheduled class day along with the current weeks Memory Quiz. Memory work is the only homework for this class to be checked by parents and signed off on sheet provided.
4. Continuously neglecting homework responsibilities will result in a delay in the student being confirmed in the faith.

Classroom work responsibilities:

5. **Each confirmand is to bring a Bible, Catechism, writing instruments, and a Pocket Folder (I will supply the Pocket Folder) to every class.** (If you cannot find your Bible or Catechism, contact the Pastor.)
6. It is expected that each confirmand will participate as needed in the classroom activities (Memory Work Quiz, Bible Study, discussions, prayer, etc.) for the day and will respect the property and persons of the teachers and the other students in the class.
7. Failure to respect the property of others may result in a delay in the student being confirmed in the faith and the possibility of expulsion from class for the year.

B. Evaluation of Performance.

1. No grades will be given for any work done for Confirmation.
2. **As part of the evaluation process, the 2nd year (usually 8th grade) confirmands will be expected, upon completion of each of the six chief parts of the catechism, to be in worship on the specific dates provided in Appendix A. As a group they will answer questions from that particular part of the catechism.** The 1st year class (usually 7th grade) is also required to be present at the worship service. If for any reason a 2nd year confirmand misses a scheduled Sunday Examination (Appendix A) then an alternate time for questioning will be scheduled. Failure to comply will result in a delay in the student being confirmed in the faith.
3. **Evaluation of each confirmand is determined first of all by the work completed and given to the Pastor.** Second, while no grades are given to the student, the quality of work will be closely examined. If concerns should arise regarding quality of work, parents will be notified, and a meeting scheduled with all concerned (student, parent, teacher and deacon). All work must be completed and turned in to the Pastor before each confirmand is eligible to be confirmed in the faith and/or passed to the next grade level. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

III. Faithful in Prayer

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” Ephesians 6:18

Prayer is an important communication with our Father. We talk to with Him almost as if we were talking on the phone. Prayer also includes listening as God speaks to us. We open each class together in prayer.

IV. Faithful in Fellowship

“Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching” Hebrews 10:25

We belong in God’s family with other believers. We need this family as we grow in our faith. We get accountability from this family as we grow in our faith. We get positive relationships, because Christ is present when we assemble together in His name! The fellowship we share began in Christ Jesus around the Word and Sacraments and extends to our relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Christians are not “islands,” they are church (together). If there are fellowship activities that you would like to organize and participate in please let the Pastor know and he will check on the arrangements.

V. Faithful in the life of Stewardship

“And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints.” 2nd Corinthians 8:1-4

Jesus not only told us to love our neighbors, He modeled His entire life after serving others. Through serving others Christians respond to the redeeming love Christ has shown for us. Christ is the head of the church, and we are the hands and the feet sharing the wonder of His love through the things we do with a world in need. The blessing of serving others is a privilege! Confirmands are strongly encouraged to give of their time, talents, and treasures to the ministry of Christ’s church in this congregation.

***In place of 6 sermon notes, Confirmands may elect to do another activity in the church. Examples include-

Being an aid or assistant with the Sunday School classes.

Helping with preparations, serving, and clean-up for German Dinner.

Attending Adult Bible Class on Sunday morning after worship.

Assisting with Lenten Suppers (does not include Youth Group dinners).

Working the live-stream area for worship services on Facebook Live

And more ...