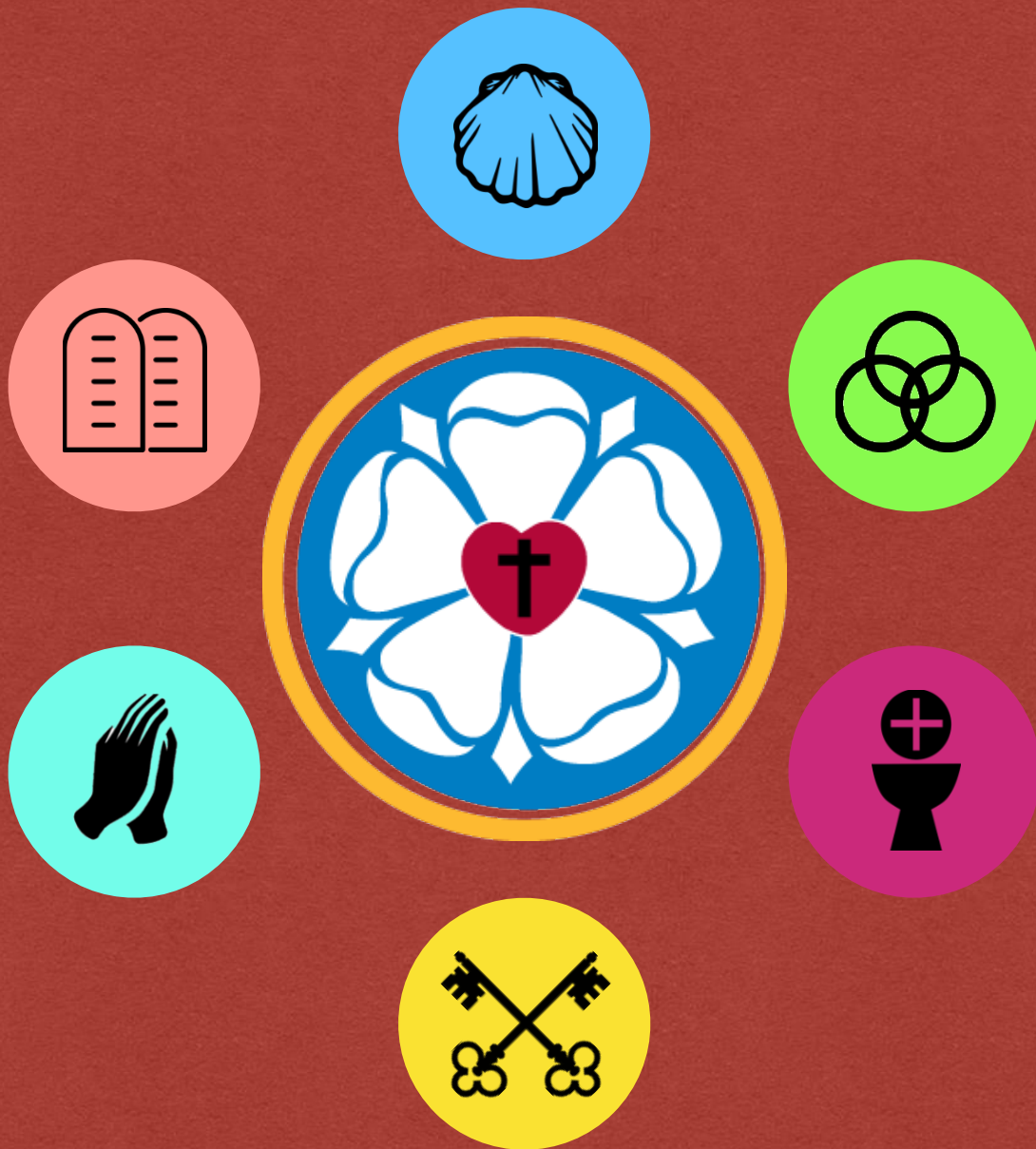


Confirmation Handbook

2018-2019



Trinity Klein Lutheran Church
Spring, Texas

Confirmation Handbook 2018-2019

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Contact Information

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REGISTRATION & COSTS

Registration for Confirmation

Parents should log on to confirmation.trinityklein.org to register their children for Confirmation. Even if your student was in the 1st-year class last year, please log on and register for 2nd-year.

Costs

1st-year Students – \$150

2nd-year Students – \$200

Registration and payment through our website is set up entirely to accept credit card payments. If you prefer to pay by check or cash, or if you need to pay in increments, we will need for you to meet with Sarah Dill or Fran. We can handle any form of payment; it just requires a little bit of assistance from our end.

Sarah can be reached at dills@trinityklein.org.

2018-19 CONFIRMATION EVENTS/DATES

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	TARGET GROUP(S)
Wednesday, August 22 5 OR 7 PM	Launch Meeting	Pier	1 st /2 nd year students and parent(s)
Sundays, 8:30/11 AM Wednesdays, 7:00 PM	Worship	Sanctuary Chapel (Wed.)	Everyone
Sundays, 9:50 AM	Sunday Morning Crew	Pier	Everyone
Wednesday, September 12 6-8 PM	Welcome	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, September 19 6-8 PM	Intro to Creed	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, September 26 6-8 PM	God the Father	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Friday – Sunday, September 28-30	Retreat	Forest Glen Camp	REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students
Wednesday, October 3 6-8 PM	Two Creation Stories	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, October 10 6-8 PM	Fun Night (TKLS 7 th graders at Outdoor Ed)	Pier	7/8 grade students
Wednesday, October 17 6-8 PM	The Fall & Promise	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, October 24 6-8 PM	God the Son	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, October 31 6-8 PM	Two Natures	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, November 7 6-8 PM	Three Offices/Two States	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, November 14 6-8 PM	God the Spirit	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Break for Thanksgiving/Advent/Christmas			

Tuesday, January 8 7 PM	2 nd year Parent Meeting 7 PM	Pier	2 nd year students and parent(s)
Wednesday, January 9 6-8 PM	Prayer	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, January 16 6-8 PM	Intro; Hallowed	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, January 23 6-8 PM	Kingdom	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, January 30 6-8 PM	Will <i>Due: Verse selection sheets (2nd year students)</i>	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, February 6 6-8 PM	Bread	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, February 13 6-8 PM	Forgive	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, February 20 6-8 PM	Temptation <i>Robe measurements due (2nd year students)</i>	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Wednesday, February 27 6-8 PM	Evil <i>Pick up banner supplies (2nd year students)</i>	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Break for Lent/Easter			
Wednesday, March 20	<i>Due date for: 1st year faith timelines 2nd year faith testimonies</i>	Pier	1 st /2 nd year students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Friday – Saturday March 22-23	Epicenter	Salem	Open to any 7/8 grade students
Thursday, March 28	Sign Up Genius for worship time on Confirmation Sunday, 9 PM		Parents of 2 nd year students
Wednesday, April 24 6-8 PM	Life in the Church <i>Due: banners (2nd year students)</i>	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Friday, April 26 6 PM - Midnight	Life's Flight	Starts/ends at Pier	2 nd year students. REQUIRED for Confirmation students.
Sunday, April 28	Confirmation Rehearsal Testimony presentation	Sanctuary	2 nd year students & parents. REQUIRED for Confirmation.
Wednesday, April 26 6-8 PM	Last Jr. Crew	Pier	7/8 grade students. REQUIRED for ALL Confirmation students.
Sunday, May 5 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM	Confirmation Sunday	Sanctuary	2 nd year students are confirmed
Wednesday, May 8	Communion for new confirmands	Sanctuary	New confirmands & families
June, 2019	Jr. High Mission to Houston		Students who just completed 7/8 grade

Confirmation Ministry at Trinity Klein Lutheran Church

The goal of Confirmation at Trinity Klein is for each student to be prepared and equipped to confirm their baptismal faith publicly by the conclusion of the confirmation journey.

Students will attain this goal as they take ownership of their confirmation journey by participating in and completing the following:

- **Jr. Crew Grow Groups**

Our Jr. Crew program on Wednesday nights is the vehicle for our confirmation instruction as we learn more about the baptismal Christian faith. Even though our instruction is the vehicle for our confirmation instruction, please know that Jr. Crew Grow Groups are not limited to Trinity members! They are a great place to bring a friend.

A typical Jr. Crew night includes:

6pm-6:30pm Food and fellowship (Pizza, drinks, & snacks \$1 each)

6:30pm-6:35pm Welcome, Games, and Announcements

6:35pm-6:55pm Worship with student-led band and volunteers

6:5pm-7:15pm Large Group Teaching Time

7:15pm-8pm Small Group Discussions based on teaching

We see these nights as incredibly valuable opportunities for students to nurture the faith given to them in their baptism. With that, participation in these nights should be a priority while participating in the confirmation program.

If a student misses a Wednesday, they are responsible for going to confirmation.trinityklein.org to complete the group guide for the evening. In order to complete the group guide, the student must watch the teaching video for the night. All of this will be found on the website. These will be uploaded no later than the Friday following the missed Jr. Crew night.

- **Confirmation Retreat**

Each year students will participate in a stay-away retreat that explores one of the Sacraments. This year we will focus on Baptism. Please see calendar for details.

- **Remaining Component for First-Year Students**

Faith Timeline: First-year students are asked to complete a Faith Timeline that will be due in the spring semester. This timeline marks significant events of faith in their lives including baptism, new family members, struggles, joys, deaths, and more. Instructions and details will be provided in January.

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- **Remaining Components for Second-Year Students**

- *Faith Testimony:* Using the timeline they completed in their first year as an aid, second-year students will write an essay-style testimony on the way God has worked in their lives. More details and instructions will be provided in January.
- *Life's Flight Event:* Second-year students will go on a field trip from 6pm to midnight as we walk through the stages of life by visiting places around our community. We'll go from birth, to dating, to high school and college, to work, to church, to marriage, to death, and to resurrection. It is an incredible event!
- *Online Questioning with a grade of 80% or Better:* See details located in this packet.
- *Confirmation Banners:* As a capstone of their two years in the program, students will either elect to select their own verse or have a pastor choose their verse for them. They will then make a banner illustrating that verse that will be displayed in the weeks leading up to the Rite of Confirmation. More details will be given at the second-year parent meeting in January.
- *Rite of Confirmation:* Students who complete the confirmation program are expected to participate in the Rite of Confirmation that will be held on the first Sunday in May.

Getting the Most Out of These Two Years

We recognize that the deepest relationship a student has throughout their lives is the one that they have with their parents. With that, Student Ministry has opted to put the reins back into the hands of parents for these two years by providing you with resources to form your child spiritually during these two years. At the heart of this effort is the understanding that *“Frogs without legs can’t hear.”*

With that in mind, here are our suggestions for you and your family to ensure that your child is getting the most out of these two years while participating in the confirmation program:

- At the heart of each of these suggestions will be the encouragement for you as a family to **Worship, Grow, Serve, and Go**. We don’t just say these words to sound trendy—we mean it! We believe that a disciple is someone whose life is wholly influenced by Jesus Christ and in order to equip your student for a life wholly influenced by Jesus you (as a family) must make tremendous efforts to Worship, Grow, Serve, and Go.
- With that, **Worship Weekly**. Your student will benefit from being in worship for these two years (and hopefully well beyond). Please do not seek the minimum in this area but

strive for weekly worship. That is the standard. We will be keeping track of this area and will ask questions about your student's desire to be confirmed should this area concern us.

- Participate in **Service Opportunities**. We will not be tracking these as we have done in years past. Rather, we are leaving it in your hands as parents. We will inform you of as many opportunities as we possibly can! It will be up to you to act upon them and actually do them. The way we see it, there are three areas in which you should sincerely try to serve in order for your student to get the most out of these two years:
 - **Community**—This is the area we usually think about when we think of service. This involves helping out a local non-profit, serving with Hope Beyond Bridges, or volunteering with the local foster care ministries. This type of service allows us to serve those whom we do not usually encounter.
 - **Worship**—Sign up to serve on Sunday Serve Team as a family. This is a great way to serve in worship! Maybe you are musically talented and can touch base with Dr. Bill Brusick to join a choir. Whatever it is: serve. Students will also have the opportunity to acolyte; encourage them to take up that opportunity and serve often.
 - **Church**—Serve in the church is not limited to Sunday mornings. Maybe there are other ministries where you feel like you can serve! Kids' ministry comes up often as a great possibility. Please talk to Jeanette Singer if you are interested in that area. We'd love to plug you in other ways as well. Please ask any pastor!
- Take advantage of the **Voluntary Trips** (dates on the calendar).
 - **Epicenter** is a 24-hour lock-in/youth gathering experience that is held here in town. It consists of worship, break-out sessions geared towards Jr. High students, and a main speaker for the event. Please mark this on your calendars and make it a priority for your student.

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- **Jr. High Mission to Houston** is the best thing that we do in Student Ministry. We serve three days in downtown Houston and spend a fourth day at a water park. We explore the poverty in the area as well as the opportunities we have to serve in our own backyard. All the while, we continue to grow in our relationship with Jesus and the ways He would have us serve in this world.
- Maybe you were one who had to memorize things for your confirmation program. Wonderful! We encourage you to expect the same of your student. If you are interested in suggestions for things for your student to memorize, please don't hesitate to ask! We will make suggestions to you of things that you can have your student memorize by heart and recite back to you. It may be a piece of the catechism or a passage from scripture. It will reinforce what we're teaching in grow groups.
- **Encourage your student to participate in Sunday Morning Crew!** During the Bible study hour on Sunday mornings students will have the opportunity to join together in fellowship while also joining together in conversation as we grow together in our relationships with one another and with Jesus. Food items are available as well for \$1 per item!
- **Follow-Up Car Ride Conversations** are a final way in which we think you will get the most out of these two years. Whether your car ride is ten minutes or thirty minutes, use

that time to engage with your student about what they just experienced. We will have suggestion cards for you to use as a guide! Just have your student read the questions to you and then you can facilitate conversations based upon what they remember. Opportunities where we see car ride conversations: *post-worship*, *post-Jr. Crew Grow Groups*, and *post-Service opportunities*.

Make the most out of these two years!

You can do it!



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CONFIRMATION QUESTIONING FOR SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS

The Questioning is offered as an online exam. Students will be able to take the exam up to 6 times between November 19 and April 17. This gives them 6 opportunities to achieve an 80% or better on the 150 questions.

A separate Question & Answer booklet is offered as the study guide. We will provide you with one copy for free. Additional copies may be purchased for \$5 each.

The questions come directly from The Small Catechism. Parents, please let your students take the exam independently, without notes, Q&A, or a copy of The Small Catechism. If anyone is having difficulty achieving 80% on the exam, please get in touch with Pastor Lee sooner rather than later.

The online exam will be offered through a website called Exam Professor. Parents will receive an invitation to Exam Professor through their email on November 17. (Just one email; if you've given more than one to Fran, please take it upon yourself to clarify which one you would prefer

for this purpose.) Exam Professor is easy to use and will guide you throughout the process. Additionally, you may always contact Fran with questions.

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SERVING AS AN ACOLYTE/COMMUNION ASSISTANT

FAQs

Who can serve as an acolyte/communion assistant? All students in the second-year class are welcome to serve. We have acolytes at every 8:30 AM service. These students automatically serve as Communion Assistants on Communion Sundays as well. Students who serve at the 11:00 service are Communion Assistants only, so we utilize them on the 2nd and 4th Sundays only each month.

How do I let the church know I want to serve as an acolyte or communion assistant? Most of the 2nd year class is already serving; however, if you are new this year or missed the sign up last spring, please stop by the sign-up table TODAY. *Please note that if you sign up for 8:30 services, you will be serving as an acolyte and communion assistant. If you sign up for 11:00 services, you will be serving as a communion assistant.*

If I have already been serving as an acolyte or communion assistant, do I need to sign up today? No.

If my family usually attends the 11:00 AM service, can I still acolyte at 8:30 AM and vice versa? Yes. We have students who serve at all worship services we offer.

Can I pick the Sundays I want to serve as an acolyte or communion assistant? Not really. The church office makes the schedule, which is basically an alphabetical rotation of all students who sign up, according to the service they selected. The schedule is revised only 3 times during the year. For instance, we have a schedule that covers May – August, then October through December, and finally January through April. We will try to avoid dates you are unavailable AS LONG AS they have been relayed to Fran BEFORE the schedule is made and distributed

***What if I want to serve as an acolyte or communion assistant during Lent or on Christmas Eve or some other “special” service?** A separate sign up for special services will be emailed out to families as the time draws near.

Is serving as an acolyte or communion assistant required for Confirmation? No, as in we will not deny the Rite of Confirmation to a student who hasn't served. However, we would like for all students in the 2nd year class to serve as one or the other. If you have an extenuating circumstance, please contact Pastor Lee.

BASIC GUIDELINES FOR SERVING AS AN ACOLYTE

- Complete acolyte training with youth staff.
- Arrive 15 minutes before the worship service is to begin.
- Go to the Elder/Acolyte room. Highlight your name on the clipboard. This indicates your presence and completion of your service.
- The robes (vestments) are located in the cabinet. Select a robe that fits properly (3-4 inches above ankle; sleeves don't extend past hands). Snap all snaps, tie inside strings.

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- Cinctures (looks like a white rope) are hanging inside the cabinet. Put it around your waist and knot according to the diagram on the wall. Don't hesitate to ask an elder for assistance if you need some help.
- Decide which one of you will be the crucifer and which one will light the altar candles.
- Take the cross and taper and wait in the narthex with the pastors and elders until time to process down the aisle.

BASIC GUIDELINES FOR SERVING AS A COMMUNION ASSISTANT

- Arrive on time for the worship service.
- Go to the Elder/Acolyte room. Highlight your name on the clipboard sign-in sheet. This indicates both your presence and completion of your service.
- Sit with your family before and after you serve. When the elders and ushers go forward for Communion, you will go as well. You will use an empty communion tray to collect

the plastic cups and will be directed to follow the pastor and elder along the inside of the communion railing.

DRESS CODE

This is perhaps one of the most important, yet most often overlooked, aspects of serving as an acolyte or communion assistant. The attire **MUST BE** clean, neat, modest, and appropriate for a worship service. Jeans, shorts, flip flops, t-shirts, and athletic shoes are **NOT** appropriate. Boys should wear dress slacks, khakis, or chinos and a collared shirt. Ties are not required. Girls may also wear slacks/pants, but dresses or skirts are preferred. Keep in mind that the robes are white and bright colors or patterns will show through the fabric. Hair should be neat and combed. Please, no flashy jewelry and **NO** gum chewing.

Elders have been instructed NOT to allow students out of dress code to serve.

SCHEDULING

As indicated in the FAQ section, scheduling happens 3 times a year. When the inevitable conflict happens, please try to find your own replacement by contacting another family. If you are running into difficulty, let Fran know as soon as possible (geocaf@trinityklein.org). It's important to keep the master schedule in the Elder/Acolyte room as accurate as possible so that the elders know who will be serving each Sunday.

Communication about serving as an acolyte or communion assistant is done by email; therefore, please make sure Fran has an email address that you check regularly. You will receive the schedules and weekly reminders by email.