

Expectations of Pastor and Congregation

- Create an environment that is safe and inviting for students to share their faith story – their fears, doubts and hopes.
- Be respectful and understanding of students needs.
- Pray for the students and their families during the course of the program.
- Welcome them and receive the gifts they have been given by God.
- Provide a program that is rooted in the God's grace and help them to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit in the faith given to them in their Baptism.
- Teach them the core fundamentals of living out their life as a steward of Christ grounded in their Baptismal identity.
- Provide an understanding of what it means to be a Lutheran Christian while at the same time being a member of the catholic (i.e., universal) church.
- Give thanks to God for these students and the unique gifts they each bring to the church.
- Have fun!!!

GOD
is our
REFUGE
&
STRENGTH,
an ever-present
HELP
in trouble.
PSALM 46:1

JESUS
Loves
YOU

Bethany Lutheran Church

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Affirmation of Baptism

one LORD,
one Faith,
one Baptism....
EPHESIANS 4:6

Bethany Lutheran Church

Affirmation of Baptism

Affirmation of Baptism (also known as Confirmation) is a ministry of the whole congregation. It is a lifelong process grounded in Baptism and instituted by the church in an effort to further nurture and strengthen the believer's faith in the Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. As a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) this program will teach according to our Lutheran understanding of Scripture and doctrine.

Objectives

Students will learn:

- God created them with unique gifts and through Baptism has joined them to the body of Christ, the church.
- They are saved from the power of sin and death solely by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.
- Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*
- Knowledge of the Bible, the written and living word of God.
- An understanding of affirmation of Baptism as a lifelong process rather than a one-time event
- A focus on God's grace active in their lives and living out their life as a servant of Christ thankful for the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to them.

Expectations of Students

- Attend Wednesday confirmation class regularly and make arrangements to complete work if classes are missed.
- Bring all materials needed for class including: writing utensil, Bible, books and any other materials you may need.
- Come promptly on time so classes can begin and end on time.
- Attend worship regularly and submit at least 2 worship notes per month. Assisting in worship as a Minister of Christ's Light (Acolyte) is mandatory for all students.
- Attend Sunday School regularly.
- Complete service project(s) as required (e.g. God's work. Our hands. Sunday and EPIC projects)
- Pray for Pastor Chad, any lay leader, and your fellow peers during the week. Pray for your parents and family.
- Be respectful to your peers.
- Listen.
- Have fun!!!



Expectations of Parents

- Pray for and with your children. (Parents promise at Baptism that they will "teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments.")
- Worship regularly with your children. (Parents promise at Baptism they will "faithfully bring them to the services of God's house.")
- Talk about your faith with your child.
- Make certain your student is present and on time for Wednesday confirmation classes.
- Read assigned Bible passages and discuss reflection questions sent out in advance with your child.
- Volunteer as needed including, but not limited to, preparation of weekly meals.
- Support Pastor Chad and/or any other lay leaders with respect to class rules established to make it an effective learning environment for all students.
- Talk with your son or daughter about what they are learning and walk with them during their lifelong journey of faith.
- Have fun!!!