

Confirmation Classes for 2020-2021

Due to Covid-19 confirmation will be different for the 2020-2021 session. The information provided in this letter is a preliminary. The content of the class will remain the same, but as with so many other things this year we will need to remain flexible and the way in which we offer the content. Below is what we have presently planned for, but it may change between now and when we present it again in the confirmation orientation video that will be released on Wednesday, September 2nd.

The content of confirmation this year will focus on Luther's Small Catechism. We will be using a book called "Free to Be: A Handbook to Luther's Small Catechism". Each student will receive a copy of this book. Instead of a Wednesday evening large group class lecture the confirmation subject for each week will be incorporated into the weekend sermons. Since there will be no mid-week large class worship/lecture session **students will need to submit a brief 4-5 question sermon note form for each service**. This is different than years past where a set number of sermon notes was required. **Notes for at least 90% of the services will be required** as these sermons will serve in part to replace attendance for the Wednesday evening large class lecture. All services will be recorded so whether you're able to attend in person or not you will have access to the content required to take notes on.

Additionally the **students will have a chapter from "Free to Be" (6-10 pages) to read each week. They will then complete a fill in the blank form either online or from a printed workbook** they will receive that will let us know they read the chapter and help them to review and retain more of the content.

Each student will be placed into a small group of ~8 students of their own grade that will meet with one of the pastors once a month. These gatherings will either be online via zoom or if circumstances allow in person at our church building. The sessions will be for asking questions about the content they've read in "Free to Be" and listened to in sermons. They'll also be used to do activities to help the kids build relationships with one another.

As with years past **the equivalent of at least four hrs of service related projects will be required.** More about this at orientation.

The requirement of mentor sessions will continue as well. **Students are required to do three one hour sessions with their mentor each year for a total of six sessions over the course of both years of confirmation.** Students can meet in person, online, or over the phone to complete mentor sessions as necessary. Mentor sessions will also be covered in more detail at orientation.

4 worship assistance experiences will be required as well. We will try to provide options that everyone is comfortable with. If in person worship becomes a possibility we will need help with ushering and serving communion if you and your student would be comfortable doing so. Until then we're considering options such as recording a reading of the scripture for the worship service. We will inform you as in person and online opportunities to assist with worship arise.

Please let us know what other questions you have in the meantime by emailing Pr. Brian at brian@3cross.org. We'll take your questions into consideration and present this information and any updates in a **Confirmation Orientation video that will be available to view on Wednesday, September 2nd by 7PM or before.**

In Christ,

Pastor Perry and Pastor Brian