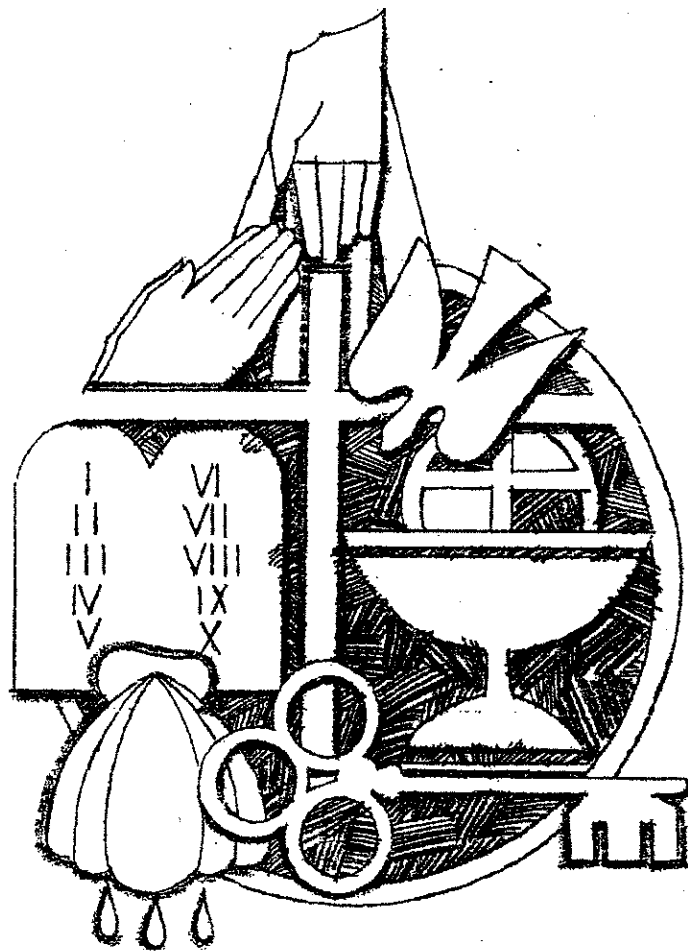


IMMANUEL  
CONFIRMATION  
MINISTRY

2016-2017



*Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Olivette, Missouri*

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## *A Letter from Your Pastors*

*There are few things we take any more seriously than our oversight of the Christian nurture of the young. Paul's prayer for the Philippians is that "your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight" (Phil. 1:9). Our goal for the youth of Immanuel is Paul's goal for Timothy: "take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses" (1 Tim. 6:12). To that end, "we proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ" (Col. 1:28).*

*This Handbook sets out the Confirmation Ministry at Immanuel Lutheran Church. There is a surprising diversity in understanding as to the purposes and goals of Confirmation, even among pastors. Not surprising, then, is the diversity in methods and requirements leading up to the same. Surely there is no ministry without flaws or weaknesses. Yet we believe these pages will present to you a ministry that will be blessed by the Lord, and will result in faith life that is vibrant and growing, faith that is built upon the sure foundation laid by the Apostles and explained so clearly in the Lutheran Confessions. We can aim at nothing less.*

*As important as our role is during these years of instruction, it pales before the importance of parents and guardians. We connect for minutes and hours; you connect for days and weeks. Studies have repeatedly shown the value of parental involvement in the Christian education of children. It is worthy to note that Luther wrote his Small Catechism not for pastors, but for the "heads of households," given responsibility for the faith formation of the young. We therefore encourage you in your noble calling as parents. Schedules are filled and time is precious – but more precious still are those "little children" that Jesus bid to come to Him.*

*May God richly bless our working together in the coming year to immerse our young people in the life-giving, life-changing Word. We go forward in the confidence of His great promise to be with us always, "to the very end of the age" (Mt. 28:20).*

## *Goals of the Confirmation Ministry*

It has been wisely observed that if you aim at nothing, you will hit it every time. We believe we need to be clear as to what we're about, and that our goals must guide us in the decisions we make and in the strategies we pursue. The Confirmation Ministry at Immanuel seeks to achieve four goals:

- \* to nurture and strengthen the faith of the student, leading toward public confession before the congregation (Rite of Confirmation);
- \* to assist the student in the integration of faith and life, that is, to challenge the student to life choices that are consistent with who they are in Jesus Christ, and to "fan the flames" of joy-filled responses of stewardship and witnessing;
- \* to better integrate our young adults into the life of the congregation; to help them to understand the meaning and purpose of community, leading to greater participation in Senior High Ministry; and
- \* to better integrate the day school students with the non-day school students, fostering friendship and meaningful relationships.

These goals are lofty, but attainable. Most can be easily seen as interconnected, one to another. All are completely dependent upon the work of God's Spirit through His Word, and yet that Word never goes forth in a vacuum. We hope to provide the context and the setting for that creative Word to do what it alone can accomplish: saving faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## *Strategies for the Mission*

If the goals are the destinations, then the strategies are the roads we take in getting there. Over the years, Confirmation instruction has been conducted in any number of settings and through the use of a wide variety of materials and techniques. Since the 1530's, the Lutheran Church has been persistent in its use of the Small Catechism. In the Six Chief Parts of the catechism, we find the central truths of Holy Scripture and a lens through which to view them. That lens is, of course, the grace of God, the cross, the giftedness of faith. Confirmation instruction at Immanuel Lutheran Church will again be firmly set in God's Word as presented and explained to us in the beloved catechism of Martin Luther. The faith has never been stated more purely or clearly.

We will strive to achieve the goals of the Immanuel Confirmation Ministry through the use of six strategies:

### **1. Worship**

It is here that God is present to us, handing out His gifts of forgiveness and grace; it is here that we come to understand our need and His goodness. It is through worship that God touches us with His re-creative power, and we learn the language of faith, passed down to us through the many generations of believers that have gone before. We discover that we are a part of something much larger than ourselves: the church, Christ's body, stretching through time and space. As always, the quiet, steady example of faithful attendance at worship set by parents is crucial during these years of study and reflection.

## *The Instruction*

### 1. Sunday Class and Lessons for 2016-2017

The following information is important for both parents and students to know and follow:

\* Instruction begins September 11, 2016 and is completed May 25, 2017. *A blessing of new students (6<sup>th</sup> grade)* and their families will take place on *September 11 at the 8:00 Service*. Students will receive the gift of a Small Catechism from the congregation at that time. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE THERE for this important rite at the beginning of your child's instruction.

Class is held each week *except for the following Sundays:*

- December 25, 2016 (Christmas Break)
- January 1, 2017 (Christmas Break)
- April 2, 2017 (District Retreat)
- April 16, 2017 (Easter)

Please note that on Sundays where there is no Confirmation, there will still be a Sunday junior high class (excepting those days when all classes are cancelled).

\* Class begins at 9:25 a.m. and ends at 10:10 a.m. each week. Please make every effort to be prompt! It is highly disruptive to have students walking through the class after the presentation has begun. Parental concern over being on time also signals the importance of this instruction to the student.

\* Students should bring their Catechisms to class each week. (The church provides each 6<sup>th</sup> grade student with this catechism; if you have not received one, please see Pastor Dobler.) The use of personal Bibles in class is encouraged, but Bibles will be provided in the classroom. *All Bible studies will be done in the NIV translation.*

\* Students are encouraged to bring their own pencils or pens; extras are provided in the classroom.

\* Notebook paper is not needed. Students will be provided lecture outlines in each Unit Folder (see below). These are completed during the lecture and are used for review prior to an exam.

\* At the beginning of each new Unit, students will be given a **Unit Folder**. The folders will have all of the work to be completed for that unit, including 1) lecture outlines (filled out in class); 2) group discussion questions; 3) homework assignments ("S'Mores"); 4) the unit memory assignment; and 5) sermon report forms. The work for each unit is to be completed, signed by a parent, and handed in on exam days. Folders will be reviewed by the pastor and returned to the students. When student has read the pastor's comments and/or made corrections, the confirmation coordinator will collect all folders and compile them into a binder to give to the student at a later date. Folders are to be handed in only after all work is completed; it is expected that all work will be completed by the last day of class. Ordinarily, only those students who have completed their work (to date) will be confirmed.

\* Because the Unit Folders contain the lecture outlines for class, they must be brought to class each week. Some families have found it helpful to use a small book bag to transport the Folders, Bible, catechism, pencils, etc.

## **2. Sunday instruction**

The cornerstone of our Confirmation ministry is the Sunday morning instruction, offered to all students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Classes meet from September through May, with 5-6 Sundays off for holidays or special events. A class is typically made up of a 20-25 minute presentation by a pastor, followed by a 15-20 minute discussion in small groups. The curriculum is designed to go through the Six Chief Parts of the Catechism twice in the 3-year period of instruction. These truths are then reinforced through the Small Group discussions, the homework assignments (S'Mores), memory work, sermon reports and exams.

## **3. Home (Parental Involvement)**

As mentioned in the Letter from the Pastors (page 1), a key to faith formation in children lies in the involvement of parents and other significant adults in the instructional process. Each week, the homework assignment and memory verse must be signed by a parent. We encourage you to take this opportunity to review your child's work, and to discuss the topic presented. Open the Bible together; review the catechism. Double check the memory verse and the longer Memory Work in process. In short, *we are asking you to take primary responsibility for the Christian education of your child.* Your involvement is far more important than ours. The Confirmation Ministry is a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to be growing together in the faith, and to be spending truly *quality* time together in conversation around the Word.

## **4. Mentors and Small Groups**

A fourth strategy of the Confirmation Ministry is the Adult Mentor and the Small Group to which your child is assigned. A student will typically remain with the same mentor and group for the entire 3 years. A mentor is a model of the faith: it is an adult who has pledged to spend time with your child for no other reason than to demonstrate the Christian walk. His or her life will be an open book, a living presentation of the doctrine taught on Sunday mornings, a witness to the grace of God at work in real life. The small group provides opportunities for both mentor and student to live out the Christian faith; to put into practice the life to which we all are called.

In addition to Sunday morning discussions, the Small Groups meet once a month for either fellowship or service. The groups decide for themselves what social activities to enjoy and what service projects to undertake. An advantage of small group dynamics is accountability: no one gets lost in the crowd; everybody counts, making it more difficult to "slip through the cracks" unnoticed.

## **5. Large Group Gatherings**

A fifth support to the faith formation of our students is the Large Group Gatherings. The goals of the Large Group Gatherings are very similar to the Small Groups, but (obviously) at a different level. Participation in the group activities underscores the nature of church as community, and provides opportunities to build relationships and history together, both important keys toward later participation in Senior High Youth (and beyond). Nothing beats time spent together in developing the relationships so necessary for a sense of belonging.

## **6. Confirmation Camp**

A sixth component of the Confirmation Ministry is the Summer Camp. In a sense, the camp combines many of the strategies listed above into a 5-day "get-away" in an outdoor setting. It provides time for additional instruction and for activities that continue to build friendships between the students. The Bible studies, singing and worship shared in a camp setting are unique and precious. We see the benefits of this week as being an integral part of your child's instruction.

\* The complete 3-year cycle and the schedule of lessons for 2016-2017 are presented on pages 12 and 13 in this Handbook.

## **2. Homework (S'Mores)**

A homework sheet will be in the Unit Folder for each week of class. This Bible/Catechism study and set of questions underscores or extends the key points of the lecture. The assignments are usually brief, and are designed to be completed in 15-20 minutes.

\* Each homework page includes a memory Bible verse that relates to the topic. There is a line for a **parent's signature** that verifies the student filled in the blanks without the use of helps. We request that you sign the assignment only after the entire page has been completed. This will allow the parent an opportunity to review his/her child's work. Please do not sign incomplete assignments; please do not sign the Unit Folder if any work remains incomplete. It will be returned to the student for completion.

\* The S'Mores sheet each week offers families a wonderful opportunity to be in God's Word together. We encourage you to complete the homework assignments *together*. Parental participation in the confirmation studies will underscore their importance to the child.

\* Please urge your student to keep up. Experience has shown that it is far easier to keep up the work than to make it up at the end of the year.

## **3. Memory Work**

In addition to the weekly Bible verses on the S'Mores sheets, a number of longer memory passages will be required. These will be portions of the Six Chief Parts (Ten Commandments, Creed, etc.) and their explanations. These will be fill-in-the-blank sheets, and will be included in the Unit Folders. In this way, a student will typically have 3-4 weeks to study and complete them.

\* As with any memory work, it is the parent's responsibility to see that the student has studied and completed it without helps. We ask a 90% score on each sheet, and will state at the top of the sheet the number of blanks needed to be filled in correctly before it will be accepted.

\* If a student falls short of 90% correct, please remove the memory sheet from the Folder and obtain another. (Extra sheets are available from Pastor Dobler during the week or from the Coordinator on Sunday.) The student should review the passage and try again. There is no limit to the number of sheets a student may request. As important as the "score" may be, the time spent in study and memorization is more important still. Please only include the completed Memory Assignment (90% or better) with the Unit Folder.

## **4. Sermon Reports**

Each student will be required to complete 8 Sermon Reports during the year (1 per month, October through May). Each Unit Folder will contain 1-2 report forms to be completed with that unit.

The purpose for this assignment is to train the students in their ability to distinguish law and gospel in a sermon, and to apply the message to their own lives. Instruction will be given during the year that will help the student understand what to listen for in a sermon and how to complete a Sermon Report Form. Parents are encouraged to help the student each month in this assignment by talking about the sermon on the drive home, over lunch, etc. Experience shows that younger students especially need assistance to recall and sort out the language and the concepts. Feel free

to take notes during the sermon, and then to “compare” them afterward prior to the completion of the report.

### **5. Exams**

All exams will be a combination of multiple choice, true-false, matching, and/or short essay questions. All exams will be given during class time on Sunday mornings. Students receiving a grade below the class standard (see below) will be asked to review the material and take the exam a second time. Class standards are set as follows:

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade:	60%
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade:	70%
8 <sup>th</sup> grade:	80%

Students will take a given exam as many times as is needed to achieve the minimum standard set for his/her grade.

### **6. Essays and Banners** (8<sup>th</sup> grade only)

Students preparing for their Confirmation are required to complete an essay on a question assigned from the catechism and a banner portraying their confirmation verse and its meaning to the life of a Christian (see “Confirmation 2017”, p.8 below.)

## **Small Groups**

### **1. Assignments and Function**

Small groups serve the purpose of building meaningful relationships between the students and between each student and a caring adult (mentor). Each student is assigned to a small group in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, organized by gender (each group is either all boys or all girls). They sit together by group for the Sunday presentation, and discuss themes or applications of the catechism to their lives. By the end of the three-year cycle, students will have spent up to 30 hours in discussion of God’s Word together with their peers and adult mentor.

Friendships are further enriched through social and service activities together. Each group will meet once per month (October through May), alternating fellowship and service projects. (A social activity in October would be followed by a service project in November, fellowship in December, etc.) As mentioned above (see: Strategies, Mentors and Small Groups, p. 3), parents may be asked to take responsibility for hosting these events. If you were unable to make the Information Meeting and Dessert in August, please contact your child’s mentor for more information.

### **2. Dates of Gatherings**

Monthly small group gatherings will be planned by a consensus of mentor and parents as often as possible. Some calendar planning time will be included at the August Information Meeting. Our hope is that an agreed-upon schedule for the year will assist parents in organizing family commitments.

### **3. Phone Lists**

The list of mentors, students and phone numbers can be found at the end of the Handbook.



## Large Group Gatherings

Large group gatherings are important to provide junior high students an opportunity to enjoy good Christian fellowship and to foster a sense of group cohesiveness. The main goal of the Large Group Activity is *fun*. Some gatherings will begin with a brief devotion and prayer to underscore the Christian nature of the group. There is one gathering scheduled per month, with a wide variety of activities planned. We request a **Large Group fee of \$40** to be paid at the Parent Orientation in August to offset costs for the activities (excluding the District Retreat in March and Confirmation Camp in June). This fee will not be returned if your child is unable to make the events; any money remaining in the Large Group Fund at the end of the year will be returned to the Junior High account.

The Large Group Coordinator for the 2016-2017 instructional year is Connie Jander. The schedule of large group events is given below, but please watch for changes or adjustments along the way. Notification of any change will be given out through the mailbox as soon as it is known.

The event for March this year is the **Missouri District Junior High Retreat**, which will be on March 31 – April 2, at Camp Windermere (Roach, Missouri). The cost for this event is approximately \$150.00, and registration will begin late January or early February. Please mark those dates on your calendars.

Drivers/chaperones are needed in order for our Large Group activities to work. Before each activity, Connie will deliver permission slips to your family mail box. Please return these slips to Connie's mail box by the deadline indicated. When your child's mentor group is scheduled to drive/chaperone (see schedule below) it is imperative that you respond to Connie with a "yes, I am driving" or "No, I can't drive but \_\_\_\_\_ will be my substitute". She must know that there will be at least a 1/7 ratio of adults/students for the success of the program and the safety of our children. We have in the past had to cancel an activity due to lack of drivers/chaperones so communication is very important.

### Schedule of Large Group Activities and Parent Assignments

Friday, October 18	Hayride	8 <sup>th</sup> grade girls
Saturday, November 4	Outdoor Movie	8 <sup>th</sup> grade girls
Sunday, January 8	Cici's and Gym Games	6 <sup>th</sup> grade boys
Saturday, February 11	Bowling	6 <sup>th</sup> grade girls
April 1-3	MO District Retreat (Camp Windermere)	
Friday, April 8	Scavenger Hunt	7 <sup>th</sup> grade girls

## **Confirmation Camp 2017**

The Confirmation Camp (for those students completing 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades in June 2017) is scheduled for **Sunday, June 11 – Friday, June 16, 2017**. Please be aware that the retreat is a part of your child's instruction (The 10 Commandments), and every effort should be made to have him/her attend. Those who miss will make the instruction up with a workbook assignment, and, of course, miss out on all of the fun and activities that help to bond the group together.

The retreat this year will again take place at Camp Trinity in New Haven, Missouri. Further information will be sent in a letter this spring, but the cost for the week is set at \$180. Please inform Pastor Dobler if your child has a conflict with the dates or if you wish to seek financial aid.

## **Confirmation 2017**

Confirmation Day this year will be **Sunday, April 23, 2017**. The weeks leading up to confirmation can be hectic, and there are a number of items of which families must be informed:

Confirmation is a public rite of the church preceded by a period of instruction designed to help baptized Christians identify with the life and mission of the Christian community. The ultimate goal of this instruction is the partaking, by the baptized Christian, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

At Immanuel our period of instruction (in most cases) is from 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade. When instruction is complete, the pastor deems the student ready for confirmation. Complete instruction includes all folders completed, all exams taken satisfactorily and regular attendance in worship and Sunday instruction.

It is not in the best interest of the student, to allow work to pile up and then rush in the last half of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year to catch up just prior to confirmation. This type of learning does not lend itself to being adequately prepared to make the pledge of faith that is made in one's confirmation.

If all confirmation work is not up-to-date by the Ash Wednesday parent meeting (or if a student is so far behind that there is no chance to catch up and adequately learn the material) the student will not be confirmed with the class and will be asked to finish their work so that they might be confirmed on an alternate Confirmation Day, the Saturday evening service of the Festival of the Reformation.

\* **Essays** will be assigned to each student in early October and will be completed by December 18, allowing plenty of time for organization, rough drafts, corrections, etc. Pastor Dobler will work closely with each student, shaping the experience into a learning event as well as an opportunity to give public witness of faith. While parents may certainly be involved with the selection of material to be included, or helping the student to think through the implications of the topic for his/her life, the students themselves should write the essays. Parental help is also sought in encouraging the student to keep up with the "dateline" for the essay drafts, eliminating the need for rushing around prior to the night they are read.

\* Each student being confirmed will design and make a **banner** (to be completed by **April 2**) depicting their Confirmation verse. The design and making of ecclesiastical art serves as another public expression of faith, and beautifies the nave on this special day. Time for assembly of the banners will be taken from a small group meeting. Additional "banner time" may be needed at

home to finish up. Banners will be presented and explained to the congregation by each student on Essay Night (below).

\* **A Parents Meeting** is scheduled on March 1, 2017, at 8:00 p.m., or immediately following the Ash Wednesday Service. Pastor Dobler will review information necessary for each parent to know concerning Confirmation Day. Biographical forms are given out which include height and weight information needed for ordering robes. Sponsor and regular invitations will be available for purchase.

\* A **Church Cleaning** is scheduled each year a week or two before Easter at 9:00 am. Please watch for this date to be publicized. We encourage families of confirmands to take time out to help with the care of our facilities, and to prepare the church building for Holy Week and Easter.

\* **Essay Night** is scheduled for Friday, April 21, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. Students will present the essays they have prepared and the banners they have made. The presentation is open to the congregation, and families are encouraged to invite relatives, sponsors and friends. A reception closes out the evening. Students are asked to dress in their "Sunday best," reflecting the respect we have for the study of God's Word and the importance of their instruction.

\* **A Confirmation Service practice** is scheduled for Saturday, April 22, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. Everything the confirmands will need to know for the service the following day will be rehearsed, including lining up, processing, the Confirmation Rite itself, and recessing. Please make every effort to have your child present for this practice, so that he/she will be informed and confident.

\* **Confirmation Day** is Sunday, April 23, 2017, and the Rite of Confirmation will take place during the 10:30 a.m. service. **Robes** will be put on at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, and **pictures** will be taken at 9:30 a.m. in the chancel (upstairs). Seats are not reserved, so families are encouraged to arrive early. No flash photography is to be taken during the service, but videotaping may be done with natural lighting from the balcony. Please note that Immanuel now video tapes its services, of which copies are available.

**Dress:** Boys are to have a white shirt, dress slacks and dress shoes; a bow tie comes with the robes. Girls are to wear dresses that are appropriate and modest (white is traditional). Heels are allowed, but remember that the confirmands must go up and down steps, kneel, etc.

**Confirmation Fee : \$50**—This fee covers the cost of robe rental, corsages/boutonnieres, and altar bouquets for Confirmation Sunday. The fee is due by the 8th grade parent meeting, Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Payment of the fee is a requirement to participate on Confirmation Sunday. (This fee takes the place of individual charges that in previous years were sent out after Confirmation Sunday)

\* **First Communion** will take place as a part of the Divine Service the following week (April 30). Confirmands will commune together as a class at the 10:30 service. Distribution will be traditional.

\* **Following Confirmation**, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class will continue to meet with the Confirmation Ministry through May so as to complete the 3-year cycle of instruction. Confirmands will begin meeting with the Senior Youth on the first Sunday of June (June 4, 2017).

## **Communication**

As with any ministry of this size, communication is absolutely critical – both between parent and child and between family and church. While the former is out of our hands, the latter is something that we strive very hard to maintain. We will do our best to minimize changes in schedules that are published and give as much forewarning as we can if it becomes necessary to do so. We hope the 4 items below will assist families in scheduling and the confirmation ministry in staying in touch:

- 1) the Confirmation Handbook for parents
- 2) the publishing of the large group activity schedule at the beginning of the year (Pg. 7)
- 3) Family Mail Slots in the Fellowship Hall (see below)
- 4) Email: Pastor uses this often to communicate with parents (individually and as a group); please provide us with the email address you check most frequently.
- 5) Church Web Site: [www.immanuelolivette.org](http://www.immanuelolivette.org)

\* Each family has been assigned a **Family Mailbox** on the north wall of the Fellowship Hall. Please check your mailbox weekly for any information being passed on to you by the Mentor or the Pastor. There may be reminders as to upcoming events or deadlines, registration forms, general announcements or changes you need to be aware of. If your child is falling behind in his/her work, this may be the Pastor's first notice alerting you to that fact.

Mail should only be picked up by parents. This will help us to know that you actually received the information, and eliminate a possible breakdown in communication between the Confirmation Ministry and the family.

## **Elder Expectations**

Lengthy discussions were held by the Elders in the past several years concerning minimum guidelines a student should follow in order to be confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Like your pastors, the Elders of this congregation take the instruction of the young in the faith very seriously, and follow its progress closely. The Elders and the Pastors work together as a team in carrying out this great responsibility given them by the congregation. The expectations presented below are done so for two reasons:

- 1) to demonstrate the importance of the Confirmation Ministry in this congregation, and to set reasonable minimums below which the goals of the instruction cannot be reached;
- 2) to give parents a measure with which to work in the planning of family life during these critical years of their child's faith formation

In no way are these seen as immediate grounds for “pass-fail.” A student who has perfect attendance may reject the faith; a student who missed much may be growing mightily in the faith. In the end, pastors must work with each family and each student in preparing them for a public witness to the faith. These expectations are just that – *expectations* – a student who takes full advantage of these opportunities will be exposed to the Word and the fellowship of believers far more often than one who does not. Where there is a serious failure to attend class and gatherings or do the work, pastors and elders alike will seek to motivate and encourage families in their commitments to Christian education.

*Elder Expectations for Participation in Confirmation Ministry*

Worship	attend 45 of 52 Sundays (at Immanuel or visiting elsewhere)
Sunday Instruction	minimum of 26 class sessions each year (September through May)
Assignments	completion of all assignments
Small Groups	3 social, 3 service (October through May)
Large Groups	7 activities (October through May)

## The Three Year Cycle

### Year One:

<u>Classes</u>	<u>Topics</u>
2	Sermon reports
3	God's Word/Law-Gospel/Creeds
4	1 <sup>st</sup> Article
5	2 <sup>nd</sup> Article
6	3 <sup>rd</sup> Article
5	Lord's Prayer
5	Exams
<u>5</u>	Exam Reviews
35	
	<i>10 Commandments (retreat)*</i>

### Year Two:

<u>Classes</u>	<u>Topics</u>
2	Sermon reports
4	Baptism
1	Confession
1	Keys/Holy Ministry
4	Lord's Supper
3	Word/Law-Gospel/Creeds
4	1 <sup>st</sup> Article
5	2 <sup>nd</sup> Article
5	Exams
<u>5</u>	Exam Reviews
34	
	<i>10 Commandments (retreat)*</i>

### Year Three:

<u>Classes</u>	<u>Topics</u>
2	Sermon reports
6	3 <sup>rd</sup> Article
5	Lord's Prayer
4	Baptism
1	Confession-Absolution
1	Keys-Holy Ministry
4	Lord's Supper
3	A Life of Stewardship
5	Exams
<u>4</u>	Exam Reviews
35	
	<i>10 Commandments (retreat)*</i>

Note: A student only attends two retreats, following 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. Those completing 8<sup>th</sup> grade and who are confirmed do not attend a 3<sup>rd</sup> camp. The 2016-2017 instructional year is **Year 1** of the 3-year cycle.

**Sunday Confirmation Syllabus**  
2016-2017 (Year 1 of the 3-Year Cycle)

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	9/11		The Sermon Report
2	9/18	1.1	The Word of God
3	9/25	1.2	Law and Gospel
4	10/2	1.3	I Believe
5	10/9		<b>Exam 1: Word</b>
6	10/16		<i>Exam 1 Review</i>
7	10/23	2.1	God the Father Almighty
8	10/30	2.2	And All Creatures: Angels
9	11/6	2.3	God Has Made Me: Humanity
10	11/13	2.4	He Richly and Daily Provides
11	11/20		<b>Exam 2: 1<sup>st</sup> Article</b>
12	11/27		<i>Exam 2 Review</i>
13	12/4	3.1	True God
14	12/11	3.2	True Man
15	12/18	3.3	Threefold Office of Christ ( <i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Essays Due</i> )
16	12/25		No Class (Christmas Break)
17	1/1		No Class (Christmas Break)
18	1/8	3.4	Redeemed!
19	1/15	3.5	He Will Come Again
20	1/22		<b>Exam 3: 2<sup>nd</sup> Article</b>
21	1/29		<i>Exam 3 Review</i>
22	2/5	4.1	Lord and Giver of Life
23	2/12	4.2	The Communion of Saints
24	2/19	4.3	Resurrection and Life Everlasting
25	2/26	4.4	Lutheran Worship
26	3/5	4.5	Liturgy of the Word
27	3/12	4.6	Liturgy of the Sacrament
28	3/19		<b>Exam 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> Article</b>
29	3/26		<i>Exam Review</i>
30	4/2		No Class (District Retreat)
31	4/9	5.1	Prayer
32	4/16		No Class (Easter)
33	4/23	5.2	Introduction/1 <sup>st</sup> Petition
34	4/30	5.3	2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Petitions
35	5/7	5.4	4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> Petitions
36	5/14	5.5	6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> Petitions
37	5/21		<b>Exam 5: Lord's Prayer</b>
38	5/28		<i>Exam 5 Review</i>

## **Directory (cont.)**

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Pastor Dobler</i>	<i>993-2394 (office); (815) 980-3443 (home)</i>
<i>Administrative Coordinator</i>	<i>Pam Niewald</i>	<i>878-0716</i>
		<i>pniewald@immanueldayschool.org</i>
<i>Large Group Coordinators</i>	<i>Connie Jander</i>	<i>732-5652 conjander@charter.net</i>
<i>Church Office</i>	<i>Eve Brandt</i>	<i>993-2394 ebrandt@immanuel-lcms.com</i>

## **Important Dates for Confirmation 2016-2017**

<i>6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents Information Night</i>	Tuesday, August 30	Fellowship Hall	7 pm
<i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents Information Night</i>	Wednesday, August 31	Fellowship Hall	7 pm
<i>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Orientation</i>	Wednesday, September 7	Fellowship Hall	5:30 pm
<i>Blessing of New Students (6<sup>th</sup> grade)</i>	Sunday, September 11	Church Nave	8 am
<i>Class Begins</i>	Sunday, September 11	East Commons	9:25 am
<i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Essays Due</i>	Sunday, December 18		
<i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting</i>	Wednesday, March 1	Fellowship Hall	8 pm
<i>Missouri District Retreat (all grades)</i>	March 30 - April 2	Camp Windermere	
<i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Banners Due</i>	Sunday, March 26		
<i>Essay Night</i>	Friday, April 21	Church Nave	7 pm
<i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Practice</i>	Saturday, April 22	Fellowship Hall	2 pm
<i>Confirmation Day: Pictures</i>	Sunday, April 23	Fellowship Hall	9:15 am
<i>Confirmation Day: Service</i>	Sunday, April 23	Church Nave	10:30 am
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Communion</i>	Sunday, April 30	Church Nave	10:30 am
<i>8<sup>th</sup> grade to Senior High Class</i>	Sunday, June 4	Youth room	9:30 am
<i>Confirmation Camp (6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grades)</i>	June 11-16	Camp Trinity	