

Dear Parents of Confirmation Age Students Grades 7th- 9th,

I hope this letter finds you all well. It has been quite a year so far and nothing in preparing for the fall has been business as usual. Pastor Paula and I have spent a lot of time contemplating how we could and would be able to provide confirmation in a safe way. Through lots of planning and discussions we have determined that we will start out this fall by providing in-person confirmation classes. This will be re-evaluated throughout the school year and we will keep you updated on any changes. Our thoughts are that we could split the confirmation classes into small groups. The **7th grade** class is naturally small with only nine students. The **8th Grade** class this year has 21 students so they will be broken into two smaller groups. Due to last year getting cut short we plan to have a shortened confirmation schedule for our **9th graders** to make up for the classes that were missed this spring. This will be done in 5 sessions and our 9th graders will be broken up into two groups since there are 15 students in the 9th grade.

The in-person plan for all Grade levels:

- Students will be required to wear a mask. Anyone that does not have one can let me know and one will be provided. We will always have disposable ones here, but we also have cloth ones available for the kids to have.
- Each group that comes in will have its own area of the sanctuary so that no group coming in later is using the same part of the sanctuary and each student will be provided an assigned seat in their area. This seat will only be for that student and will not be used by any other group.
- Each group will meet at a different time so that only one group will meet in the sanctuary at a time.
- Temperatures will be taken when your child enters the building. Hand sanitizing stations will be provided for students to use as they enter and exit the sanctuary. The doors in the sanctuary will be open to provide more ventilation.
- There will be separate doors for entering and exiting the building.
- Each student will be provided their own supplies in a gallon storage bag that will be placed at their seat. They will keep their materials in that baggy to use for each session.
- If anyone tests positive for Covid-19 all families will be alerted.
- classes will be slightly shorter this year. We will hold them for 45 minutes to avoid multiple groups coming and going at the same time.

We would like to meet earlier in the day if we can. We are asking that you let us know if your child could come to church at 4:00 pm for their confirmation could you let us know. We are hoping to get one group to meet at that time.

Proposed 7th and 8th Grade Schedule: Starting the Week of September 21st

Group #1: Wednesday at 4:00 pm, **Group #2:** Wednesday at 5:00 pm, **Group #3:** Wednesday at 6:00 pm

9th Grade Confirmation Schedule: Starting the Week of September 21st

There are 15 students in 9th Grade confirmation so they will be divided into two groups. We would like to hear back from High School parents to see if there would be a way that we could have students meet at the church on one of the days in the afternoon. Since it looks like the HS is starting with classes running in the morning. Would you be able to get your child to confirmation some week day in the afternoon? We need feedback from everyone so that we can get plans made. If you could email me at JennyH@clcstoughton.org or call at 608-873-9353. Please contact me by no later than **August 30th**.

Session #1: “Why should I Pray when God doesn’t answer all my prayers?”

Session #2: Powerpoint of Rebecca Ninke’s Book, “There’s No Wrong Way to Pray” and Jack Finney’s “The Different Ways to Pray”.

Session #3: “The Different Ways to Pray” continued...

Session #4: “Prayer in Worship” with a particular focus on the prayers of the church.

Session #5: Stoles and their meaning. After our discussion we will make our Stoles for this year’s confirmation ceremony

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. I hope to hear back from all of you.

Many Blessings,

Jenny Hoffman

Lay Ministry Administrator

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