

Handbook for TLC Confirmation 2024 - 2025



Tallmadge Lutheran Church

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I. Confirmation Ministry – Our Philosophy

The Rite of Confirmation at Tallmadge Lutheran Church provides confirmands the opportunity to make a public confession of a personal and heartfelt faith in the Triune God. In this ceremony, the confirmand commits him/herself to the Evangelical Lutheran Church, to the Church's teaching, and to living a Christian life.

Confirmation Day at Tallmadge Lutheran Church is not considered to be graduation from religious instruction, a completion of Baptism, a bestowing of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands, nor reception into "full" church membership. Confirmation is, instead, a personal confession of faith in the Triune God.

Tallmadge's confirmation ministry, then, is a program which involves each of the confirmands in Bible and doctrinal teaching, moral training, service to the church, and fellowship with other youth. Our goal is for each confirmand to have a heart-felt faith in Jesus Christ and a commitment to His church.



II. Objectives

The student will:

1. Confess Jesus as Lord and Savior.
2. Develop a desire to grow as a Christian throughout his/her life.
3. Apply Biblical teaching to his/her own life and vocation.
4. Partake of Holy Communion in a meaningful way.
5. Make moral decisions and clarify values in the light of the Gospel.
6. Feel accepted as a member of the Christian community and value fellowship with Christians.
7. Be an active participant in the mission of the church.
8. Apply the content of the 6 chief parts of the Small Catechism to his/her own life.
9. Engage in congregational worship.
10. Express confidence that one is a son or daughter of God in reflecting a positive self-concept.

III. Confirmation Relationships

A. Baptism

The relationship between Confirmation and Holy Baptism is derived from the fact that God gives faith and the Holy Spirit to all who celebrate Holy Baptism. The Christian grows and responds to this faith in various ways throughout life. Confirmation provides the baptized Christian with an opportunity to renew his/her baptismal promises.

B. Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is a *GOSPEL Gift* with forgiveness earned for us by Jesus on the cross. We don't deserve this gift. We have done nothing to earn this gift. We receive this gift through **faith** in Jesus Christ alone! Jesus has given the Lord's Supper to the Christian Church on earth which proclaims Jesus death by distributing Jesus' Body and Blood to God's People for the forgiveness of sins. In the New Testament, the requirements to receive the Lord's Supper included that a person believed in Jesus, repented of their sins and was baptized.

Once a year Tallmadge Lutheran Church offers Early Communion Instruction for youth in 5th Grade and above. Youth may complete the Early Communion instruction with their parents and receive First Communion on Maundy Thursday. If youth do not participate in the Early Communion Instruction, students will receive First Communion as 8th Graders on Confirmation Sunday.

IV. Curriculum and Materials

The youth will be using the *Bible* and *Luther's Small Catechism* on Wednesday evenings. In addition, on Wednesday evenings each student is expected to bring a notebook, pen or pencil, and highlighter to class.

V. Relationship of confirmation to Youth Group

Participation in youth group activities is strongly encouraged. Youth activities are an important part of each student's church and religious experiences. These activities can build a community of friendship which will contribute to a stronger high school youth group and future adult activity in the church. Parents/Guardians are asked to be supportive of youth activities, and to lend their assistance in the youth program.

VI. Involvement of Parents/ Guardians

The education of children is one of the most important responsibilities God has given to parents/guardians. It is therefore essential that both the church and the homework in close cooperation.

The Responsibilities of Parents/Guardians are to:

- A. Pray for your child, the class members, and the instructors.
- B. Speak to your child enthusiastically about the privilege and responsibility of confirmation.
- C. Have your child in prompt and regular attendance in worship and confirmation classes. Parents/guardians are asked to be especially aware of these class periods and to avoid scheduling other appointments or activities during this time.
- D. When available, complete the family devotion that accompanies Confirmation lessons. This is a great opportunity as a parent to share your faith and connect with your youth.
- E. Have your child in regular attendance at worship services, and give your child a good example as a faithful worshipper yourself.
- F. Spend a minimum of 5 minutes each day in meaningful conversation with your child, about God, faith, their lives etc. (More than just, "How was your day at school?") You can do it! You have a much greater influence over the character and faith of your children than we do, and we pray that God uses that influence to draw them closer to Him.
- G. Encourage, participate in, and assist with youth group activities.
- H. Four Family Practices important in faith growth for young people:
 - 1 & 2) talking about faith with your mom and dad
 - 3) family devotions and/or praying together;
 - 4) doing family projects to help other people.

VII. Confirmation Requirements

A. Worship Attendance

Offering praise and thanks to our loving Savior is an integral part of the Christian life. Young Christians in Tallmadge's Confirmation Ministry program are to be in the habit of worshipping each week, and attending special services of praise such as Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. Worship attendance will be recorded regularly. A minimum of fifty percent attendance is expected to be confirmed.

B. Sunday School Attendance

All students enrolled in Tallmadge's Confirmation program are to attend Sunday School as part of their confirmation instruction. Classes meet Sunday mornings from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. The teacher has planned the program to include valuable Bible study and practical applications. Regular attendance is important and strongly encouraged.

C. Mid-Week Attendance, Absences and Cancellations

Class absences are to be excused by a parent/guardian in writing or by phone. Sickness, family death, and emergencies are reasons for excused absences. Please do not schedule other events during class time. Students will be allowed to make up missed assignments. Make-up work must be completed within the same number of class sessions as those missed.

We will follow the Tallmadge Public Schools in canceling class due to inclement weather. When in doubt, call the church office (330-633-4775) or Pastor Andy at 330-203-5474.

D. Classwork

All students are expected to complete assignments and homework given by the instructor, make passing grades on tests and quizzes, and participate in class discussions.

E. Worship Reports

Two Worship Reports per month are required for every student (for a total of 20 Worship Reports). During the seasons of Advent, and Lent, students may report on the Wednesday services in place of the Sunday service. If a student must be away on Sunday mornings, reports from the church attended are acceptable. Reports must be on Tallmadge's Worship Report form. (Forms are located in a drawer in the Library).

F. Service Projects

Confirmation students are encourage to participate in Youth Group service projects throughout this year of confirmation instruction.

G. Acolyting

Each student is expected to serve as an acolyte for worship services. Training will be provided by Pastor Andy.

I. Behavior

All students are expected to treat other students, the instructor, and other adult leaders with courtesy, kindness, and respect. Poor behavior physically and/or verbally will not be tolerated. A verbal warning will be given for the first offense followed by a call to the parent/guardian.



6th, 7th & 8th Grade TLC Confirmation Schedule

2024 - 2025 Confirmation Class

Confirmation Classes will be held in Room 1 (the classroom by the ramp) from 6:30pm – 8:00pm.

September 4 – Confirmation Orientation & Acolyte Training

September 11 – No class – Pastor Andy out of town

September 18 – Intro to the Lord’s Prayer

September 25 – Lord’s Prayer – Our Father

October 2 – Lord’s Prayer – Holy Name

October 9 - Lord’s Prayer –Kingdom Come

October 16 - Lord’s Prayer – Will Be Done

October 23 - Lord’s Prayer – Daily Bread

October 30 - Lord’s Prayer - Forgiveness

November 6 - Lord’s Prayer – Temptation/Evil

November 13 - Ten Commandments Overview

November 20 - No Other Gods

November 27 – Thanksgiving – No Class

December 4 - Name of the Lord Advent Worship at 6:30pm Confirmation at 7:30pm – 8:30pm

December 11 – Sabbath Advent Worship at 6:30pm Confirmation at 7:30pm – 8:30pm

December 18 – Honor Parents Advent Worship at 6:30pm Confirmation at 7:30pm – 8:30pm

December 25 & Jan 1 -- Christmas Break / No Class

January 8 -- Don’t Murder

January 15 -- No Class – Pastor Andy out of town

January 22 -- Adultery

January 29 -- Stealing

February 5 – False Witness

February 12 – Don’t Covet

February 19 – Doctrine of God

February 26 – Apostles’ Creed Father

March 5 -- No Class Ash Wednesday

March 12 – Apostles’ Creed Son I 7:30pm – 8:30pm

March 19 – Apostles’ Creed Son II 7:30pm – 8:30pm

March 26 – Tallmadge Spring Break (No Classes)

April 2 –Apostles’ Creed Spirit 7:30pm – 8:30pm

April 9 – 8th Grade Confirmation Prep 7:30pm – 8:30pm

April 16 – No Class – Holy Week

April 23 – 8th Grade Confirmation Prep

April 30 – 8th Grade Confirmation Prep

May 1 – 8th Grade Public Examination 7:00pm

May 4 Confirmation Sunday 10:30am Worship

