

Why *CrossWalk*?

Our confirmation ministry is called *CrossWalk*, because we believe as you walk through life the cross reflects God's love and mercy to you.

It's through this walk of faith, where you discover your life is in the midst of God's Great ongoing story.



Questions: Contact Kristen at 763-537-3653 or kbrechler@stjamesincrystal.org



"for we walk by faith not by sight. "
- 2 Corinthians 5: 7

A Faith Journey for Students in
7-8th grade!

St. James Lutheran Church
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Our Mission As A Church

St. James Lutheran is a community church that takes to heart their mission of Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal.

Lutherans are followers of Jesus Christ who accept the teachings of Martin Luther (1483-1546). At the heart of these teachings, we hold that

- We are saved by the **grace of God alone**—not by anything we do
- Our salvation is by **faith alone—therefore we trust**
- The **Bible is the norm** for faith and life—God’s Living Word

Confirmation Ministry Purpose

Through St. James’ confirmation experience (*CrossWalk* and *Affirm*), students “confirm” the promises their parents made in faith at the time of their baptism.

It is an intense time of spiritual discernment and spiritual growth. We understand that Middle School years are filled with transition and our goal is to support them in their faith journey and help them know they are not alone.

During confirmation we give them the tools to understand their lives in the context of God’s great ongoing story.

Our program is designed to help students better understand their relationship with God and how to keep their Baptismal promises and walk as a disciple/follower of Jesus Christ.

CrossWalk Overview

CrossWalk rotates years of study to focus on key aspects of the New Testament, Old Testament and Luther’s Small Catechism (Lord’s Prayer, Creed and Ten Commandments). Students will interact with the Bible as they critically think, learn and discover more about faith in God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and how it relates to their lives.

CrossWalk Tuition Cost

A yearly tuition cost of \$70 per student (grades 6-8) goes to offset a portion of the curriculum, retreat and supplies of the program.

This fee is due at the beginning of the year, along with a completed registration form before/at the fall orientation meeting.

There may be additional youth events (optional) that will have extra costs associated with them.

Parents/guardians who commit to being a small group leader will receive one free tuition.

Important Information

Bring your Bible—Bring your Bibles to Confirmation each night.

Weather Related Cancellations—Occasionally we have a weather event that impacts confirmation. *If Robbinsdale schools close due to weather we will not have confirmation.* Information about delayed or cancelled events will be left on the website and families will be contacted. Please make the best decision for your family.

Friends are Encouraged!—We are called to share the Gospel with our friends. If your friend doesn’t have a church home or is interested in learning about God and Jesus, invite them to any of our Confirmation weekly gatherings.

Photography—During the year photos may be taken of the activities in which we participate. Photos may be used in St. James website or promotional materials and/or Wildfire promotional materials. No names of individuals will be used. You may choose not to have photos used by indicating this in your consent form.

Financial Aid—Scholarships are available for those in need. Please contact Kristen for more information about scholarships.

Expectations

Confirmation is a voluntary program. We assume that by enrolling, students and families agree to the expectations outlined in this booklet.

In order to make Confirmation the best experience possible for all people, we agree to certain criteria that will benefit individuals as well as the group.

- Students & families will seek to grow closer to Christ
- Students will respect and love one another as children of God
- Students will worship regularly with the Body of Christ
- Students will attend every scheduled Wednesday event
- Students will attend every "Reformation" Event on Sunday afternoons
- Students will complete and submit 15 worship notes
- Students will assume leadership roles in congregation
- In every way we will strive to build up one another in Christ

Parent Involvement

Parents are an integral part of confirmation ministries. Your involvement shows the importance of faith to your child. Families are encouraged to attend *CrossWalk* together. Make it a family event on Wednesdays. There is something for every age group!

In addition there are many opportunities to serve in the *CrossWalk* ministry. The opportunities to serve are: leading/co-leading small groups, substituting for a small group leader, large group presenter, youth forum volunteer, helping with evening meal, providing transportation and/or snacks for an evening.

Sign up for the area you are interested in serving.

CrossWalk—7th-8th Grades

Orientation on Wednesday, September 6th— 6:00-7:00pm

Meets Wednesdays evenings from 6:30-7:30pm (Sept—May)

And one Sunday a month (1-4pm)

Cross Walk involves weekly gatherings on Wednesdays and once a month on Sunday afternoons with other Twin Cities congregations.

Throughout the year students will experience: worship arts, large group teaching, small group interaction, service projects, and much more!

Wednesdays: We will begin at 6:30 with a short teaching and then break off into small groups. Small groups involve discussion, reflection and highs and lows. Then we wrap up with communion and prayer around 7:30pm. Wednesday we meet in Peter & Paul.

Sundays: Once a month we will travel to other churches in the Twin Cities. These gatherings will involve: worship arts, presentation, service, large group and small group interaction. We will meet from 1-4pm on Sundays. Adult Mentors and drivers are needed on Sundays to help out.

Affirm—9th Grade on up

Orientation on Wednesday, September 6th—7:15-8:15pm

Meets Sunday mornings at 10:10-11am Sept-October

The Affirm seminar focuses on helping students get ready to Affirm their Baptism. This seminar involves adult mentoring, connecting with Sr. High youth and creating a faith statement.

Confirmation Rehearsal—Saturday, October 21st—9:15am
Confirmation Celebration 2017—Sunday, October 22nd—9:00am

Details about Affirmation of Baptism ceremony will be discussed at the orientation meeting.

Registration tuition is \$35.00

Calendar:

Sept 6	7-8th - Orientation Meeting (6:00pm)
Sept 13	Session 1
Sept 17	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm)
Sept 20	Session 2
Sept 27	Session 3
Oct 1	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm)
Oct 4	Session 4
Oct 11	Session 5
Oct 21	<i>Confirmation Rehearsal (7 & 8 help serve)</i>
Oct 25	<i>Confirmation Fair—First Lutheran, Columbia Heights</i>
Nov 1	Session 7
Nov 5	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm)
Nov 8	Session 8
Nov 15	Session 9
Nov 22	<i>Thanksgiving Worship—(worship with family)</i>
Nov 29	Session 10
Dec 3	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm)
Dec 6	Session 11
Dec 13	Session 12
Dec 20	Christmas Party
Dec 27 & Jan 3	<i>Christmas Break</i>
Jan 7	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm)
Jan 10	Feed My Starving Children: Coon Rapids
Jan 17	Session 13
Jan 24	Session 14
Jan 31	Session 15
Feb 7	Session 16
Feb 11	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm)
Feb 14	Ash Wednesday (worship with family)
Feb 21-Mar 21	Mentoring & Lent Worship
Mar 4	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm) St James
Mar 28	<i>Spring & Holy Week Break</i>
Apr 4	Session 17
Apr 8	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm)
Apr 11	Session 18
Apr 18	Session 19
Apr 22	<i>Break—Families Moving Forward</i>
May 6	Confirmation Reformation (1-4pm)

Confirmation Reformation

This year we are trying a new thing, and joining with other Twin Cities congregations for a richer Confirmation experience. We will tour other churches, colleges and Luther Seminary to learn more about our Lutheran heritage.

We believe that developing relationships with other believers is critical for faith development. We will engage in service projects, nationally know speakers and worship arts as we discover “Who am I” in God’s big family.

St. James, House of Hope, Calvary, Salem, Nokomis Heights, Peace

These meetings will happen between 1-4 pm on Sunday afternoons. We will leave from St. James and drop off back at church after the event.

We need Mentors and drivers to help us with these “Reformation” Events. Please consider helping out in this capacity.

Youth Forum

Sunday mornings we have a Youth Forum for Sr. High/Middle School Youth. This forum involves discussion, guest speakers and/or movie discussions. *Youth Forum is an important part of the confirmation experience. Students are expected to regularly attend Youth Forum along with worship.*

Youth Forum schedule matches the Lighthouse schedule. For instance when Lighthouse breaks for a holiday, so will Youth Forum.

Lent Mentoring

During Lent (in February & March) students will meet with an adult mentor from 6:30-7:00pm. And then will attend worship together. Students will select their mentor or one will be assigned. Be thinking about who you would like as a mentor.