

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, that 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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Crystal, MN 55428
(763) 537-3653

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 7-8) 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 on the 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 5th— 6:00-7:00pm

Meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:50pm (Sept—May)

CrossWalk involves weekly gatherings on Wednesday evenings at St. James and other Wildfire 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 worship, a short teaching and then break off into small groups. Small groups involve discussion, reflection and highs and lows. We will wrap up with prayer around 7:50pm. We will meet in various rooms at St. James.

Wildfire: Once a month we will travel to other churches in our area. We will partner with other Wildfire churches for fellowship, service and learning events. Parents are needed to help with transportation.

Students are expected to bring their Bibles with them to all sessions.

Affirm—9th Grade on up

Orientation on Wednesday, September 5th—7:00-8:00pm

Meets one Sunday a month at 10:10-11am Sept-March

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, April 27th —9:15am
Confirmation Celebration 2019—Sunday, April 28th—9:00am

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

Registration tuition is \$35.00

Calendar

Calendar:

Sept 5	7-8th - Orientation Meeting (6:00pm)
Sept 12	Small Group Intro & Acolyte Train
Sept 19	Lesson 1
Sept 26	Lesson 2
Oct 3	Wildfire event @ House of Hope
Oct 10	Lesson 3
Oct 17	<i>Hike @ Pr. Randy's</i>
Oct 24	Lesson 4
Oct 31	Lesson 5
Nov 7	Wildfire event @ Holy Nativity
Nov 14	Lesson 6
Nov 22	<i>Thanksgiving Worship @ Cross Of Glory (worship with your family)</i>
Nov 28	Lesson 7
Dec 5	Wildfire event @ Valley of Peace
Dec 12	Lesson 8
Dec 19	Lesson 9
Dec 26 & Jan 2	<i>Christmas Break</i>
Jan 9	Feed My Starving Children: Coon Rapids
Jan 16	Lesson 10
Jan 23	Lesson 11
Jan 30	Lesson 12
Feb 6	Wildfire Event @ Faith Lilac Way
Feb 13	Lesson 13
Feb 20	Lesson 14
Feb 27	Lesson 15
Mar 6	Ash Wednesday (worship with family)
Mar 13-Apr 17	<i>Mentoring & Lent Worship</i>
March 27	<i>Spring Break</i>
Apr 17	<i>Holy Week Break</i>
April 24	Lesson 16
April 27	Help with Confirmation Rehearsal & Brunch (9am)
April 28	Confirmation Celebration (9th grade on up)
May 1	End of Year Celebration

Wildfire

In 2009, six churches began talking about how we could re-imagine Confirmation. We believe that developing relationships with other believers is critical for faith development. Equally important is education and serving our neighbors.

Together we pool our resources to provide concerts, service projects and fun events, encourage spiritual growth and sense of community. Today this is a group of seven churches:

St. James, Cross of Glory, Elim, Faith Lilac-Way, First , Holy Nativity, House of Hope & Valley of Peace.

We will participate in a few Wildfire meetings that happen once a month, typically the first Wednesday of the month. On these nights families will meet and pick up at the specific Wildfire location.

Exploring Other Faiths

A couple of times throughout the year we will visit other churches/synagogues or places of worship. This will be an opportunity to experience how others worship God. Many say these are powerful opportunities. The dates for these visits are yet to be determined. Most often they will happen on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

Youth Leadership

Sunday mornings, youth have the opportunity to help, assist or lead Sunday School Ministries. Students are encouraged to mentor and support children in their faith development. Talk to Amy Jermstad or Pr. Kristen for more information on how to get involved in key leadership areas.

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.