

# Confirmation Handbook 2021-2022

We thank you for working with us in the faith formation of your youth! If at any time you have questions or concerns regarding the confirmation program, please contact Pastor Kathy ([karmstrong@cross-of-christ.org](mailto:karmstrong@cross-of-christ.org))



# Church Directory

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## Small Group Guides

### Sixth Grade Guides

Tanya Holmes      720-940-4848      [tanyaholmes@live.com](mailto:tanyaholmes@live.com)

### Seventh Grade Guides

Megan Hansen      720-505-1599      meganhansen62@gmail.com  
Paul Kunz      816-646-2591      ptk1960@gmail.com

### Eighth Grade Guides

Mindy Paddock      720-203-3927      mkpaddock@gmail.com  
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January 19	John the Baptist & Jesus the Early Years
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February 9	Disciples, Parables, and Miracles. Oh My!
February 16	Now you see him....Now you don't Resurrection / Road to Emmaus / Ascension
February 23	Fun Night
<b>Lenten Mentoring/Worship (March 2 - April 17)</b>	
April 6	Seder Meal - 8th Graders and Parents
April 20	Pentecost and the Early Church
April 27	Saul and Discipleship / Closing Celebration!
<b>Summer</b>	
June 26 - July 2	RTLCL Confirmation Camp
July 10 - 16	RTLCL Senior High Week (8th graders)

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## Purpose/Mission

The Confirmation journey is an intentional time set aside during a young person's life for them to question, grow, and seek transformation in their Christian faith. In our confirmation ministry, our youth learn what it means to be a Lutheran Christian in the world today.

In our congregation, we involve young people in this ministry during their 6th, 7th, and 8th grade years, with their Affirmation of Baptism taking place in the fall of their 9th grade year.

When infants and children are brought to be baptized, parents and sponsors make faith promises for them.

*"You are entrusted with responsibilities, to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that they may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace."*

-Service of Holy Baptism

In the service of Affirmation of Baptism, confirmands "confirm" / "affirm" these baptismal promises for themselves, saying, *"In faith, I turn to Christ."*

Confirmation is a time together, not a time apart. Throughout the confirmation ministry we seek to build relationships between students, adults, our Christian community, and God. This is NOT a journey toward a graduation, but another step on the life-long journey of faith that extends from birth to death.

We strive to partner with parents and family members in this ministry, during these years as you guide your child in developing a stronger relationship with Christ.

## Confirmation Schedule (2021 - 2022)

October 6	Intro to Bible: Old Testament
October 13	Abraham's Journey of Faith
October 15 - 17	RTLTC Confirmation Retreat
October 20	Joseph and his Brothers
October 27	Fun Night
November 3	Moses and Aaron
November 10	Judges and that lady Ruth
November 17	Book of Psalms
November 24	Thanksgiving Break
December 1	The Kings
December 8	Prophets & Review
December 15	Christmas Fun Night

**-Winter Break-**

# Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Confirmation & High School Week

Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp is an ELCA Summer Christian camp located in the Sangre De Cristo mountains of southern Colorado. During this week long program, youth will get a chance at low ropes, high ropes, white water rafting, and hiking. They will experience Bible studies, arts and crafts, and archery as well! All this while hanging out with youth from Cross of Christ and other congregations, not to mention the great counselors and staff at RTLC.

Camp is one of the most valuable faith formational experiences that we do as a church. Youth are encouraged to attend RTLC camp at least once in their three years in confirmation.

Registration opens November 1 and fills up fast. Registration for confirmation week closes on February 15. But remains open for High School week until it fills up, this is usually by March.

Register online at [www.rainbowtrail.org](http://www.rainbowtrail.org).

June 26 - July 2 Confirmation week #1 (Current 5th—7th)  
July 10 - 16 High School week #1 (Current 8th graders)  
Cost: \$495

## Youth Scholarships

Scholarships are available for anyone going to any Cross of Christ ministry activity. This includes both Rainbow Trail and Sky Ranch Lutheran Camps, as well as ALL youth activities and retreats. We plan scholarships into our annual budgeting and fundraising forecasts, so please don't hesitate to ask for help with paying for activities through the church.

Forms for scholarships are available on the youth board.

Summer Camp Scholarships are due by March 15, 2022.

## Confirmation Curriculum

Our confirmation curriculum is a three year rotation. It is based on the Small Catechism (Apostles' Creed, Ten Commandments, and Lord's Prayer), the Lutheran Sacraments (Holy Baptism and Holy Communion), Lutheran Church History, and the Bible (Old and New Testament).

2021-2022	Bible: Old & New Testament
2022-2023	Lord's Prayer, Sacraments, and Lutheran Church History
2023-2024	Ten Commandments and Apostles' Creed

## Confirmation Night Format

Wednesday Nights from 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

The weekly confirmation program is made up of a mixture of large group lessons, small group discussions and activities, and hands on learning through games, service, and creative projects. We are going to try to meet in person as much as possible as a large part of ministry is being together, but we also know things change quickly in today's world and meeting in person may not always be possible for all families. So there will be a zoom small group option and individual learning plans available.

Each confirmation session will be divided into a large group and a small group session. During large group, one of the staff teaches the main lesson to the entire class. This is done through PowerPoint, discussion, multimedia presentations, and games.

The Small Group time is designed to give youth a chance to discuss how the topic applies to their life and how it shapes their faith. Youth are divided into small groups and are led by one or two of our adult small group guides.

We will also have opportunities for fun team-building activities and service projects.

**Masks are required for all youth and adults for all indoor youth ministry activities.**

# Expectations

The following expectations help guide the youth and families through their confirmation journey. If there are any concerns about completing the expectations please contact Pastor Kathy.

## Attendance:

- ✝ Youth need to be present for confirmation lessons and worship.
- ✝ Youth are responsible for making up missed lessons for confirmation. Make-up-work will be available on the church website, [www.cross-of-christ.org](http://www.cross-of-christ.org). Look under the "ministries" section and then youth/confirmation/schedule.
- ✝ Attend Affirmation of Baptism service for this year's 9th Grade Class on **October 31, 2021 at the 11:15 A.M. service.**
- ✝ Be prepared for class with Bible, Small Catechism, a writing utensil, and a great attitude!

## Cell Phone Usage:

- ✝ **Youth:** We expect that electronics and mobile devices are off during confirmation and youth activities.
- ✝ **Parents:** Please refrain from calling your youth unless there is an emergency.

## Respect yourself and others by:

- ✝ Listening during the large and small group times
- ✝ Respecting church materials and supplies
- ✝ Participating in discussions and activities
- ✝ Allowing others to learn

## Mentoring:

- ✝ Youth will participate in Lenten mentoring (Page 10)

# Rainbow Trail Confirmation Retreat

## “Fully Alive: Living a Life Full of Faith, Hope and Love”

We all want to live a happy and full life. In God, we are able to not only live, but we are able to be FULLY ALIVE! There are three things that make this possible: FAITH, HOPE & LOVE. These three things lead, guide, strengthen, and encourage us to live life and live it abundantly. I don't know about you, but life tends to be so busy and tiring. I am often so focused on other things than God that I wonder where my faith comes in and where is God. We will discover that when our lives are full of faith, hope and love, we are living a life with God. We then are able to become aware of God's presences in the world and in our life. When we make faith, hope & love the foundation of our lives, we are grounded and become fully alive!

Get away to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp for a weekend retreat during the fall where we'll spend time in fellowship and learning with extraordinary RTLC staff. Join us for crafts, team building, activities, outdoor games, and worship!

October 15 - 17, 2021  
\$100

## High School Service Trip (8th Grade Only)

Current 8th graders are encouraged to not only attend Rainbow Trail High School Week, but also the yearly summer service trip. Our summer service trips have been some of the most spiritually meaningful experiences for our youth and is a highlight for them as they continue to grow their faith.

Appalachia Service Trip      June 26 - July 2

# Mentoring/Lenten Worship

Mentoring helps build meaningful relationships between adults and youth, where both can grow and learn spiritually from each other. Mentoring sessions are designed to give students another adult in their life who will pray for them and share in their faith development.

Each student will be responsible for finding their own mentor by **January 9, 2021**. They should be a confirmed Christian that is active in their congregation.

There will be a Parent/Mentor meeting on **Wednesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m.** The mentoring sessions will take place during the season of Lent: **March 2 - April 13**. There will be no class during the season of Lent. However, students and families are expected to attend midweek Lenten worship services.

## Stay Connected

There is a lot that happens in our confirmation and youth ministry. Here are a few ways that you can stay connected.

**Website:** [www.cross-of-christ.org](http://www.cross-of-christ.org) (Ministries / Youth / Confirmation)

**Facebook Site:** CrossOfChristChurch

**Electronic Weekly Newsletter:** Subscribe on website's home page

**Email:** You will receive regular emails from Pastor Kathy or Pastor Aly about upcoming events. If you have not received one, please email Pastor Kathy so we can double check to make sure we have the correct email.

**Breeze:** Please set up your family account on Breeze. Call the church office if you need help.

# Expectations

## Worship Notes:

✝ 15 Worship Notes per Year / 45 Total

✝ Worship notes will be carried over year to year. This is a running tally over 3 years of confirmation.

✝ A student can have **5 extra worship** notes per year that will be counted towards your next year's total.

✝ **Two for One** Sunday will be **October 31, 2021**. Student will get credit if an adult **ALSO** turns in a worship note with their student. **BOTH** student and adult needs to take a worship note to get double credit.

✝ Parents **must review and sign** each worship note form.

✝ Turn completed worship notes into the hanging folder on the youth board by the kitchen or email [confirmation@cross-of-christ.org](mailto:confirmation@cross-of-christ.org)

✝ You may do sermon notes at other churches when visiting. Please attach bulletin with notes. (*Not to exceed 3 unless otherwise approved*)

## Church Visits:

✝ Attend 2 churches visits per year.

✝ This will be your choice what church you would like to visit, but at **least one has to be a non-Lutheran service.**

✝ You may attend in person or online

✝ Youth must fill out and turn in a worship form to receive credit

✝ After each service we encourage you as a family to take time to reflect together on the similarities and differences of that worship service compared with Cross of Christ.

# Expectations

## Worship Leadership:

We know that worship is going to be tricky this year. Some of you may not feel comfortable worshipping in person because of some family members may not be vaccinated. The church supports you in whatever decision you make for the safety of your family. We will continue to have online worship as an option.

If you are wanting to worship in person, we do invite you as a family to volunteer in worship. This is a great way for your student to be engaged in worship and an opportunity to lead.

## Areas to volunteer

- ✝ Assisting Minister / Reader
- ✝ Acolyte (Light candles for worship) - Currently we are not doing this officially, but ask me when you come to worship and I will put you in.
- ✝ Communion Assistant (Distribute wine or bread during communion)
- ✝ Usher (Hand out bulletins, pass offering plates, and direct congregation forward for communion)
- ✝ Music Ministry (Special Music)
- ✝ Altar Guild (Set up/clean up for communion - once a month)

## Hopes

The following are opportunities we hope your family will participate in during this confirmation journey and beyond.

### Sunday Youth Café - 10:15 a.m.

Sunday mornings we will gather up in the youth room for casual conversations and a time to center around our relationships with one another and God.

### Faith Conversations at Home

We encourage families to talk about the lesson after each class. We also hope all families pray or talk about faith on a daily basis. If you would like help in starting these conversations, please contact Pastor Kathy.

# 8th Grade Expectations

**Seder Meal:** Passover is the ancient Jewish festival of Israel's deliverance from slavery in Egypt. For many, many generations, it has been observed with a feast called the Seder, which was once a family meal and a worship service with much praying and much eating. The 8th grade confirmation students and their parents are invited for a special evening celebrating this festival on **Wednesday April 6, 2022**.

**Faith Statement/Personal Bible Verse:** Youth write a personal statement of faith. In this faith statement youth will answer the question, "What does it mean to me to be a Christian?" They also will choose a Bible verse that has personal meaning.

**9th Grade Retreat:** Youth have a retreat during the late summer before their 9th grade year to discuss the 5 promises that they will make during the service of Affirmation of Baptism and what to expect in high school.

**Interviews:** Each youth will meet individually with the Pastors to talk about their faith statements and confirmation ministry. This is done in the fall of their 9th grade year as part of their 9th grade retreat.

**Council Meeting:** The youth are invited to come to the **Church Council** (October 11, 2022) and share their faith statements. The council votes to affirm the youth as adult members of Cross of Christ.

**Affirmation of Baptism Service** will be Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 11:15 a.m.