

“Head 2 Heart”

Confirmation Class, Messiah Lutheran Church, 2022-23

Class Time: Wednesday evening 6:15—8:00 P.M.

1) (Wednesday attendance crucial) **Every student is expected to be friendly and welcoming to all others around them. Bring your Bible & Catechism to each class – Mark it up!**

Parent involvement: Get my student to class early or at least on time (6:15) We have our dinner made every Wednesday to help with the time crunch.

2) **Each student is expected to participate in monthly activities and shall attend at least one of the following faith building camps/retreats:** Junior High youth events will be posted on the Youth Information Boards, Kiosk, the weekly bulletin, Facebook, Instagram, Remind, and MLCJoliet.org. Please help us with our planning and sign-up early. We have two special youth kiosks with information, forms, and youth payment envelopes. This will be where you turn in all payments and forms, so you don't have to track down Brian. **PLEASE DO NOT LET THE COST OF AN EVENT KEEP YOUR STUDENT FROM ATTENDING!** We will do everything we possibly can to make sure that your students can go.

This year we are transitioning 6th graders in the H2H going from a 2 year system to a 3 year system. This means that we have different expectations for the different years.

What this looks like

6th grades/1st years- This year is where students are fed by the Teachers, Faith guides, and the 8th graders. Your responsibility is to learn and soak up everything that is poured into you. You have 2 responsibilities: 1. Complete your sermon notes for the year (15). 2. Attendance (show up to events like mafia, Bible camp, camping trips, fundraisers, etc.)

7th grades/2nd years- This year is where the student becomes more independent. They still have their faith guides/ other leaders to lean onto but this is where they feed themselves on the word of God. Your responsibility is to wrestle with what you have learned in class and see how you can use that knowledge to teach others around you. You have 4 responsibilities: 1. Sermon notes (25) 2. Service hours

(20) total. (10 inside church and 10 outside church). 3. Attendance (show up to events) 4. End of year relaxed interview with Brian.

8th grade/Third years- This is the year where you take everything that you learned and invest it back into the 6th graders. You have 1 responsibility: 1. Connect and pour into the 6th graders. You will be given a list of 6th graders that you will need to connect with every week. This means you go out of your way to talk to them and make them feel welcomed in the Youth Ministry. You invite them to different youth events and make sure they can get integrated into our little family. This is the most important part of the program because it is where you put what you have learned into action and you spiritually feed others around you.

***students who started H2H previously to the 2022-2023 year still follow the old expectations.**

Goals and Habits

Each student will complete 25 sermon notes each year. The forms are self-explanatory and may be picked up in the Narthex. The forms should be returned with a parent's signature each week to the wooden box on the west side of the narthex.

4) Sunday Morning Bible Studies (Sunday school) weekly. SMBS adds to the overall learning experience and create the healthy habit of meeting with friends to study God's Word. 8th graders get to join the Highschool Sunday school. This is where they can go deeper in to the Bible in a relaxed setting. Parent involvement: *Sign up for 2 Sunday School Classes*

5) Our goal is to have students attend Sunday Morning Worship at Messiah Lutheran Church in addition to Sunday school. The best way for parents to see that their child is in church worshiping and learning is for each family to worship together regularly. Our 11:00 worship format is geared specifically to families. Parent involvement: *Plan on a longer commitment Sunday Mornings.*

7) Interviews with the Pastor. In the spring (April-May) of the **7th grade** of instruction each student will take a written test to affirm their catechism knowledge. After completing with an 80% score, or better. The student and Pastors will also discuss ways to stay involved in the church as they become adults in their faith. The Memory test will be in April during Wednesday night class time.

2nd Interview (August-September): At the end of the **second year** of instruction each student will have a 20-minute interview with the Brian and the pastors. The student will discuss his or her faith and discuss the challenges and successes they have had over the past few months in staying connected to the church. We will also discuss them being leaders in H2H in their 8th grade year. The parents will receive a remind contact with the interview dates and will be responsible for arranging interview appointments. Parent involvement: *Schedule interview dates*

8) **Parent Classes...** In order to help parents be a part of their student's confirmation years we will be having a few Parent classes. This will be a time of fellowship for the parents and instruction. We will review student class content and address passing on the faith to teenagers. The classes will be listed on the syllabus. It is our prayer that these meetings will also help you see you are not alone in this journey and we will become a closer church family.
Parent involvement: *Both parents attend Parent classes*

9) **IGNITE! Summer...** Students are expected to stay plugged in year-round. Being a part of church and God's family is not a seasonal sport. Your student's relationship with God is directly impacted by how often they and you gather with God's people. Plan to worship together as a family in the summer and find places/ways to worship while on vacation. Attend **IGNITE!** during the summer.
Parent involvement: *Encourage students to invite friends. Do they have a ride?*

10) **Confirmation is in the fall...** At the end of the **third year** of instruction each student will show their desire to be a contributing part of the church by staying involved over the summer. Sept.-Oct are especially important as this will be the time the students plan their Confirmation service that will take place Reformation Sunday **October 29th, 2023 during the 11:00 service.** Confirmation Rehearsal will be during the week prior. Parent involvement: *Attend rehearsal*

If a student has any learning difficulties, medical conditions, or emotional challenges, please let the Pastoral staff know so that the needs of the student can be met with understanding.

The cost for "Head to Heart" confirmation materials is \$30.00 per year. Checks can be written to Messiah Lutheran. Specify in the memo that it is for Confirmation. Updated 4/4/2022