



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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REV. JOHN YOUNG
SENIOR PASTOR

JENNN PARTLOW
INTERIM YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

August 10, 2006

Dear Parents,

Can you believe it's almost September already? Time to start packing up the beach towels and start sharpening the pencils. For the OSLC Jr. High Ministry, September means the start of another great year of confirmation, Sunday School, and tons of opportunities to serve our community, this church and each other (*oh, and not to mention have a TON of fun while we're at it*).

If you're receiving this letter, it means that our records indicate that you have a child who is eligible to take part in the 2006-2007 Confirmation program. While the rite of confirmation is, by no means, a *requirement* for you or your child, we do encourage you to prayerfully consider taking this opportunity to **partner with OSLC in providing your child a foundation in the Christian faith, thus giving your child the opportunity to truly take ownership in his or her faith in our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ.**

OSLC's confirmation ministry is in its second year of using the Faith Inkubators curriculum, which focuses on **faith development** and **Biblical learning** through **a blend of Christian education and youth ministry in a relational format**. This program, however, requires a three-person team: the student, the confirmation program, and YOU, as parents. You will be expected to take an active role in this ministry, as it is truly the parents who have the greatest earthly influence on a child's faith.

After receiving some great constructive input from participants in last year's program, we feel the program this year can only improve! Here are some important aspects of the program of which you need to be aware:

- **Theme Events** (formerly known as "confirmation classes") will be held on the **1st and 3rd Sunday evenings of each month**, from 5:30-7:30pm (no longer on Sunday mornings).
- The **2nd weekend** of the month will offer a **Service Event**, while the **4th weekend** will offer a **Fellowship Event** (specific expectations for participation will be discussed at the orientation meeting).
- **Sunday School** will again be offered every week, but not as part of the confirmation program. For confirmation participants, Sunday School will be required **once a month** when the entire congregation studies a part of the Apostles' Creed.
- There is one **mandatory Confirmation Retreat on Oct. 20-22**—please mark your calendars *now* so your child will not have sports or other activities that will hinder attendance at this retreat.

More details and expectations will be presented during the parents' orientation meeting, which will coincide with the Kickoff Theme Event on Sunday, September 17th for those parents and

children who are registered for the 2006-2007 Confirmation Ministry. To register, please fill out the enclosed form and return it to OSLC **no later than September 3, 2006.** You will then receive further information regarding the 9/17 Kickoff Event. If you have any questions before you complete the registration form, you may contact Jennn Partlow (jennn@oursaviorlutheran.org) or Pastor Young (pastor@oursaviorlutheran.org) at the church (845.897.4423; ext. 202 or ext. 201).

There is a **\$40 registration fee** per child for the 2006-2007 program, which covers the cost of the workbook for the year as well as a deposit for the Confirmation Retreat. For first-year students, there is an additional **\$10 fee** for a Small Catechism and Bible for your child. *Please note, there are scholarships available if you are unable to provide the requested fees.*

God has commanded both the church and you, as parents, to bring up His children as Christian disciples who are confident in their salvation and live out their faith in word and deed. To parents, He says,

“These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.”
(Deuteronomy 6).

To the church, He says,

“...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”
(Matthew 28).

Let us partner together and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, lovingly impart the faith to our and, more importantly, to His, children.

peace, blessings & joy,

jennn partlow
Interim Youth Ministry Coordinator

A note from Pastor...

I am very pleased with our confirmation program for the coming year. For those of you who might not know much about Jennn, she is a synodically trained Director of Christian Education (DCE), so she has received a thorough Lutheran theological education. We are very blessed to have her in our congregation! She and I have been working together to make sure that confirmation is a positive experience in every way. This includes the curriculum itself, as we are now entering the second year of Faith Inkubators. I am excited that this program, based on the Bible and the Small Catechism, is something that we will be doing together as a congregation, just as last year we went through the Ten Commandments together. I do miss teaching the kids, but I have been involved (and will continue to be involved) in the weekend retreat and various fellowship and servant events. This is a great program that has my full endorsement and the support of the elders of our congregation. If there is anything that remains unclear to you, however, please feel free to call me at 897-4423, ext. 201, and I would be happy to discuss any part of the confirmation program here at Our Savior.

Peace in Christ,