



**SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
CONFIRMATION HANDBOOK
2018-2019**

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Haymarket, VA 20169

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BASIC PURPOSES OF CONFIRMATION

- Students will grow in relationship with God, with their peers, and with adults of Shepherd of the Hills
 - Students will experience God and discover stories of God's faithfulness throughout time and history including today and be grounded in the foundations of faith.
 - Students will understand what faith means to them, grow in it, and live it out the rest of their lives.
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More specifically, students will:

- Have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- Be disciples engaging in the mission and ministry of Christ both within and outside of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
- Know they are saved by grace through faith.
- Have knowledge of Church history.
- Have greater understanding of the Bible, how to use it, and its key themes.
- Understand and live out what it means to be a Christian.
- Understand basic theology and Lutheran tradition and doctrine.
- Identify and share the Church's confession of faith.
- Understand more about the Apostle's Creed, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments.
- Understand what it means to be a steward and how to live out that calling.
- Have strong relationships with caring adults in the congregation.
- Have strong relationships with peers and be able to talk about their faith with them.
- Be able to see the difference their faith makes in their daily life and apply what they have learned.
- Be ready to affirm/confirm their faith.
- Have a solid foundation in faith that will help and guide them in future years.
- Continue to learn and grow in their faith after they affirm their Baptism.



CONFIRMATION COURSE OF STUDY

2018-2019

The Bible

The Apostles Creed

Ten Commandments

2019-2020

The Church: History of the Church, Denominations, the Lutheran Church

The Lord's Prayer

The Sacraments – Baptism and Holy Communion

The “Marks of Discipleship”



CONFIRMATION EXPECTATIONS FOR 2018-2019

All students are expected to do the following:

Attend:

- Confirmation class regularly
- Worship
- Gatherings with “Faith Friends” and engage in this ministry and relationship
- Serve as an acolyte on Sunday mornings

Interview and hear the faith story of 3 people (parent, godparent, mentor, friend, any member of Shepherd of the Hills, etc...). Fill in their answers on the faith interview form that can be obtained from the church office or on the confirmation page of Shepherd of the Hill’s website. Turn in the form to Pastor Darcy. The first one is due *November 17, 2018*; the remaining two are due *March 30, 2019*.

8th Graders attend:

- Conversation with Pastor Darcy and at least one parent prior to Confirmation Sunday
- Confirmation Sunday rehearsal, June 2, 2018 at 9:15am – 10:15am
- Worship service including Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation, June 9, 2018 at 10:30am

All students are encouraged to do the following:

- Participate in youth group activities. See newsletters, emails and texts from Shepherd of the Hills Youth ministry team for more information. Activities include serving, fellowship fundraising for special events, faith growth opportunities, trips and retreats.
- Go on the Summer 2019 Mission Trip: To Taylorsville NC from June 23-28, 2019 the group will serve and learn about the strengths and struggles of marginalized rural populations. The trip is organized through YouthWorks, an organization providing life-changing, Christ-centered mission trips for over 20 years. For more information or to register, contact Holly Scavelli or the office to register by Oct. 15, 2018.
- Participate fully in the life and ministry of Shepherd of the Hills. Attend worship and special events. Serve in various ways, like being an usher, greeter, help with special events, etc.
- Live the Marks of Discipleship (Habits of Faith – see next page.)



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GROWING IN FAITH

Marks of Discipleship - Individually and as a Family

Pray daily

- Say a prayer before meals as a family.
- Pray before bedtime thanking God for God's blessings throughout the day and lifting up concerns.
- Parents: say a blessing for your child before school or before bed (i.e. "You are a child of God. God loves you and so do I.").

Worship weekly

- Worship at Shepherd of the Hills on Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
- During Lent, worship at Shepherd of the Hills on Wednesday nights. Dinner at 6:30pm, Worship at 7:30pm

Read Scripture regularly

- Participate and read the Bible during Sunday school or adult education opportunities.
- Put your Bible next to your bed and read a little before falling asleep.
- Get a year - long devotional book and read it together as a family.

Serve others at and beyond Shepherd of the Hills

- Serve on the altar care team (set up and clean up communion), become an usher, greeter, or lay reader and/or help out with fellowship events, and Vacation Bible School in the summer.
- Go on the youth Summer Mission Trip to North Carolina.
- Help out with putting together Crossroad-Connections kits for students in need at various times throughout the year.
- Clean up at a park or serve at Haymarket Pantry

Cont'd...



Build caring relationships

- Students: Attend the youth events for middle and high school students and young adults.
- Talk through “Faith Interview” questions in the car and/or at mealtimes together as a family.
- Visit around worship. Attend Lenten dinners, services and/or other special events.

Give generously of time, talent, and resources.

- Put aside money each week to give to the Church and charitable organizations.
- Sponsor a child in Haiti at the Village of Hope School (\$35 a month).
- Sign up on the Sunday “Connections” insert to help out with a specific project.



General Information

Materials

Students are encouraged to bring their bible to class every week. Shepherd of the Hills has bibles to use but students getting to know their own is best.

Curriculum Reviews

After each major session, there *may* be a review to ensure that students have grasped the material and can apply it to life. If there are any special considerations to be made for students when taking a review, which they may associate with test-taking, parents/guardians should contact Pastor Darcy.

Cancellations

If there is bad weather or a prediction of it, check your e-mail or phone for a message, and/or Shepherd of the Hills website (www.sothva.org).

Absences

If a student will be absent from confirmation class, parents are asked to please send Pastor Darcy an e-mail.

Contact Information

Shepherd of the Hills	www.sothva.org	703-754-3640
Pastor Darcy Percy	pastordarcy@sothva.org	General Confirmation
Karen Schiefelbein	admin@sothva.org	Registration and Forms

Important Dates

November 25, 2018	No Class
December 2, 9 and 16, 2018	Christmas Pageant Practice
December 23, 2018	No Class
December 30, 3018	No Class
April 14, 2019	No Class – Palm Sunday Brunch hosted by youth
May 19, 2019	Last Day of Confirmation for 7 th grade students
May 26, 2019	No Class
June 2, 2019	Confirmation Rehearsal for 8 th grade students at 9:15am
June 9, 2019	Confirmation Sunday, 10:30am Worship Service