



September 2020

Hello Confirmation Families,

Thank you for your patience as we have worked to shift our Confirmation program from a weekly, in-person, gathering to a hybrid model and an at-home model. There are many details involved when making sweeping changes to a program that has been in place for decades. I appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we work through this new format.

The three years of Confirmation preparation is a time for students to learn and discover how their faith is a part of who they are and how it guides them each day. Confirmation is also a time for students to develop good faith habits and learn what it means to love and serve their neighbor. While most of life feels different right now, this learning process is still important, perhaps now more than ever with the new challenges students face.

Like the Confirmation format, the registration process as also changed. We have created a contactless registration form which is available at <https://augustana.com/confirmation-registration/>. Please complete your registration no later than Sunday, September 27.

When you register your student you will select if they will participate in the:

- Hybrid option
- At-home option

Details of what you can expect for all confirmation students and the two participation options can be found on the second page. Please take time to read all the information and contact Abby Norlin-Weaver at [anorlinweaver@augustana.com](mailto:anorlinweaver@augustana.com) with questions or if you need further assistance. As always we are here to support the students and families on their faith journey in whatever way we can.

We're all excited for another wonderful year, and we're looking forward to having you as a part of it!

Blessings,

Abby Norlin-Weaver and Augustana Staff

## Confirmation Option Details

### What every family can expect:

#### Weekly Electronic Confirmation Connection

Each week confirmation students & families will receive an email which will include, announcements, a short video introducing the lesson, a guide for at-home discussion, and a weekly *Where Faith Meets Life* Practice for students to complete. We are working to see if we can make virtual small groups happen two weeks a month. Stay tuned for updates on that.

#### Weekly Participation

Participation will be tracked by students completing the *Where Faith Meets Life* Practices given in the weekly email. These practices will be simple assignments to help students think about and interact with weekly faith topics. Students will have a week to complete each practice. Responses to the practice will be turned in electronically. Once a student's responses has been turned in, they will be marked present for that week. These weekly practices will help students work towards the *Where Faith Meets Life* end-of-unit projects.

#### In-Person Rotation Option

##### *What to Expect*

With this rotation system, students will meet in-person once a month and work from home two weeks. Holidays or school breaks account for the fourth week each month.

Once a student's registration has been completed, they will be assigned one of the following in-person rotations. Assignments will be based on last year's small groups to allow for those connections to grow. There will be a mix of grade levels in each rotation group. These in-person gatherings will only meet in the Fellowship Hall from 6:00-7:00pm. The three week rotation helps with social distancing as we gather.

Group A— 10/7, 11/4, 12/2

Group B— 10/21, 11/11, 12/9

Group C— 10/28, 11/18, 12/16

#### At-Home Option

##### *What to Expect*

With this option, students will be able to work from home every week. There will be three weeks a month of at-home lessons. Holidays or school breaks account the fourth week each month.

The weekly Confirmation Connections will provide students what they need to participate from home. Once registrations have been submitted, Abby Norlin-Weaver will connect with those choosing this option and set up a time to check-in once a month. These are the dates for at-home lessons.

October 7, 21, & 28

November 4, 11, & 18

December 2, 9, & 16

#### Habits of Faith for Students

We are taking a new approach to what has been known as the Confirmation Credits, they will now be called Habits of Faith. The purpose of the Habits of Faith portion of Confirmation is to help students develop an active and engaged faith life. The categories in this section have been renamed to: Worship, Learn & Grow, and Act. You will hear more about these categories later.