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St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

A Congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

July 27, 2023

Dear Parents of 5th and 6th grade students,

We are approaching the beginning of the new school year. Your child has reached the age when instruction towards confirmation should begin. This letter will inform you about how this instruction will take place, and what will be required from you, the parents.

About a month ago I tried to contact all the families that have children who will be entering the 5th or 6th grade to let them know about a change. Previously confirmation instruction at St. Paul's began in the 6th grade. We are expanding the instruction to include 5th grade also. I (Pastor Holmen) will be teaching the 5th and 6th grade class. Pastor Bertram will be teaching the 7th and 8th grade class. This will lengthen the overall time of instruction by one year for those attending Wednesday classes. This change was made in consultation with and the approval of the Council of Deacons.

Pastor Bertram and I have scheduled a required information meeting for all the parents and children of those going into 5th and 6th grades (non-SPL School students only), and 7th and 8th grade (both SPL School and non-SPL School students). This meeting will explain the classes, the requirements, and answer any questions you might have. This mandatory meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 27th after church in the church basement. The meeting will begin about 10:15. If you and your child are not able to attend this meeting, please contact me so we can meet individually.

In preparation for this meeting, we ask that you please look over the "Requirements Leading to Confirmation" from our official SPL Policy Manual, a copy of which has been included with this letter. Confirmation instruction is important for being properly equipped to be an adult Christian and adult member of the congregation. The congregation's official policies reflect that importance. All families with children enrolled in our confirmation program must agree to these requirements before classes begin.

The classes will be held on Wednesdays, beginning September 6th, 3:30-5:00 PM.

The only required book for the 5th and 6th grade class will be Concordia Publishing House's Holy Bible (ESV). SPL will be purchasing these Bibles in bulk to reduce costs. The estimated cost to you will be around \$13.

I am excited to begin teaching this important class. Please contact me with any questions or concerns. Otherwise I plan on seeing you at the meeting on Sunday, August 27th.

Yours, in Christ,

Pastor Michael Holmen