

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of May 2, 2021

<b>SUN</b>	1:30 pm	Confirmation Service
	3:00 pm	Confirmation Service
<b>MON</b>	10:00 am	Walking Club (Main Church)
<b>TUE</b>	10:00 am	Walking Club (Main Church)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise Bible Study (In-person and online)</i>
<b>WED</b>	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
<b>THUR</b>	10:00 am	Walking Club (Main Church)
	7:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class (Online)
<b>SAT</b>	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
<b>SUN</b>	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:00 am	Open Forum (Grace Room)
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Kids Club
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:30 am	Open Forum (Grace Room)
10:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion	

## **Jammin' on Janesville – June 4**

Volunteers are invited to join Pastor Nate and Sally Wallner at Jammin' on Janesville on Friday, June 4. St. Paul's provides a children's game (Plinko) with prizes alongside music by Mike Krill and God's Way band members. If you'd like to join in the fun of loving our community and promoting St. Paul's in this way, please mark interest on your Connection Card or contact Sally at [swallner@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:swallner@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 218-5197.

## **Community Outreach – “Birthday Bag” Gift Card Requests**

St. Paul's is partnering with the Muskego Woman's Club and the Muskego Food Pantry in helping to provide families with a Birthday Bag for their children. The parents they are helping do not have money to provide a birthday party, so the Muskego Woman's Club is putting the party in a bag! The bags will include cake mix, frosting, candles, and decorations. St. Paul's wants to match each of the bags with a \$15 Walmart gift card for the parents to purchase a gift for their child. The gift cards will be labeled, “From Friends of St. Paul's.” If you would like to participate, please purchase the gift card(s) from Scrip or from the store, put them in an envelope marked, “Birthday Bag GC,” and place in an offering box at church. If you would like to donate money, we will buy the gift cards for you. Any questions? Please contact Sally Wallner at (414) 218-5197 or [swallner@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:swallner@stpaulmuskego.org).

## **Celebrate Juneteenth Day at Garden Homes**

Stop by the Welcome Center to pick up a flyer about the Juneteenth Outreach Event sponsored by our Mission Partner, Garden Homes Lutheran Church, on Milwaukee's north side. This is a great way to build relationships with members of our closest mission partner. Check the Connection Card for more information, and Dr. Nelson will contact you.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## Hospitalized

Dorrette Probst (home hospice care), Ted Nommensen (Autumn Leaves in Franklin), and Lois Bestel (Village at Manor Park). Matt Chapman has been discharged from the hospital.

## Wedding

Timothy Johnson and Samantha Pertle were married on Friday, April 30, 2021. May the Lord bless and keep Tim and Samantha as they live in unity with Christ.

## Attendance

The following attended last weekend's services: 142 on Saturday, 103 on Sunday 7:45 am, 173 on Sunday 9:15 am, 179 at The Bridge, 75 on Sunday 10:45 am, and 29 on Wednesday.

## Following the Promise Class

Join Pastor Nate in the *Following the Promise* class Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm. This class is a "hybrid offering" with online and in-person options. To join, email him at [nstrobel@stpmuskego.org](mailto:nstrobel@stpmuskego.org) or text him at (414) 426-8236.

## Summer Care 2021

Our Extended Care staff is offering Summer Care for children ages 3 years old to grade 5 from 6:30 am–6:00 pm. Summer Care will be from Friday, May 28, through Friday, August 13. We will provide a safe, Christ-centered, fun environment for your child. Visit [stpmuskego.org/page/summer-care](http://stpmuskego.org/page/summer-care) for more information or to register.

## Summer Care Lead Teacher Position Available

Mrs. Hintze, one of our 4K teachers, is stepping down from her position as a lead teacher in our Summer Care ministry. We thank Mrs. Hintze for her many years of service to the Lord and our Summer Care families! If interested in this position, contact Seth Fitzsimmons at [sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org](mailto:sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320 ext. 118.

## Mr. Steffen Receives Call

Our Vice Principal and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Kurt Steffen, is considering a call to teach 6<sup>th</sup> grade at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Beverly Hills, FL. If you want to share your thoughts with him, email him at [ksteffen@stpmuskego.org](mailto:ksteffen@stpmuskego.org).

## 4K Teacher Call Accepted

The Ministry Board called Lindsay Schneider to a one-year call to teach full-day 4K, and she has been led by the Holy Spirit to accept our call to serve. Glory be to God!

## Marriage Mini-Class

Marriage is hard. Marriage is fun! Raising kids is hard. Raising kids is fun! On Sunday, May 23, from 12:00 – 1:15 pm, St. Paul's will host a free mini-class sharing marriage and parenting resources for couples. Many men and women at St. Paul's care about family, so make the investment in your marriage (and parenting)! An optional lunch will be served, and childcare will be provided up to age 10. For more information, mark your connection card or email [sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org](mailto:sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org) or [mtkolander@gmail.com](mailto:mtkolander@gmail.com).

## Single? Dating? Engaged? Married?

Are you 18-30 years old trying to navigate life as a single person or moving through dating with marriage in mind? Navigating life as a single or dating Christian can be difficult. *Awake and Alive* will be doing a book and Bible study on "Single, Dating, Engaged, Married" by Ben Stuart beginning Sunday, May 2, via Zoom. To join, mark the connection card or contact Mike Westendorf at [mwestendorf@stpmuskego.org](mailto:mwestendorf@stpmuskego.org) or 414-507-8250.

## Open Forums/Voters' Meeting

The annual voters' meeting is Thursday, May 20, at 7:00 pm in the Grace Room. Agenda items include elections for Ministry Board members, approval of the annual Ministry Financial Plan, a proposal to call another pastor, proposed Gift Trust Fund and Legacy Fund distributions, and a change to St. Paul's Bylaws to give the Ministry Board authority to disburse funds from the Capital Reserve Fund. The *Messenger*, which can be found in the Welcome Center, includes resolutions about each of these items. The purpose of the open forums is: 1) to give our members an opportunity to ask questions about these proposals and other ministry questions and 2) to give the Ministry Board a chance to hear possible concerns and make adjustments prior to the voters' meeting. The first open forums are next Sunday, May 9, at 9:00 and 10:30 am in the Grace Room. There will also be a Zoom open forum on Tuesday, May 11, at 7:00 pm. The final open forum will be Saturday, May 15, at 6:00 pm.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## Want to Celebrate Juneteenth Day?

Garden Homes Lutheran Church (GHLC) in Milwaukee is inviting St. Paul's members to celebrate Juneteenth with them on Saturday, June 19, from 4 – 7 pm.

Juneteenth celebrates the emancipation of those who had been enslaved in the United States. On June 19, 1865, months after the end of the Civil War, Union General, Gordon Granger, reached Galveston, Texas with the news that the slaves had been freed.

St. Paul's Mission Partner, Garden Homes Lutheran Church (GHLC) is a 70% African-American congregation with 565 baptized members. It annually celebrates Juneteenth by hosting a street party for their members and for everyone in the Garden Homes neighborhood. The party is a major outreach effort for GHLC and a great way to share God's love with those living around the church and school. GHLC blocks off the street, sets up tables and chairs, serves food, plays music, sponsors giveaways, has games for children, and hosts a fun evening for all.



St. Paul's would like to support our mission partner, Garden Homes, by providing volunteers to help with event setup, grilling, food serving, children's games, giveaways, and takedown. Not only would this be a great help to GHLC, it would also be a great opportunity to experience another culture of people, move racial understanding forward in a positive way, and foster a closer bond between St. Paul's and Garden Homes congregations.

If you would be interested in helping or learning more about Juneteenth at Garden Homes, mark your connection card or contact Dr. Nelson ([jnelson@stpmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpmuskego.org) 414-750-2586). Group transportation would be provided to Garden Homes and back for all participating from St. Paul's.





## CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2021

### Sunday 1:30 pm

Ella Bennett  
Landon Boesel  
Josiah Bonack  
Jordan Ciula  
Joseph Edlebeck  
Nathan Fechtmeyer  
Brody Gaengel  
Joshua Gawlitta  
Jenna Goelz  
Caleb Guhr  
Kalleigh Henneberry  
Lucas Hudock  
Danica Hulbert  
Trevor Jahns  
Trinity Kelley  
Callie King  
Kate Klein  
Sydney Younk

### Sunday 3:00 pm

Mya Ender  
Audrey Kremkau  
Evelyn Kwiatkowski  
Kalissa McLain  
Arabella McPherson  
Alex Mueller  
Lily Nagel  
Luke Neumann  
Jacob Ralston  
Brady Rudoll  
Emerson Rush  
Ethan Schutten  
Michael Schwartz  
Jordyn Stubblefield  
Emilia Trettin  
Logan Tutkowski  
Teagan Vahovick

Together with their parents, the confirmands selected their Confirmation verse and were asked what this verse meant to them. This gave them the opportunity to express their faith. What follows is each confirmand's personal information, Confirmation verse, and profession of faith. We thank our gracious God for the life-giving and life-sustaining gift of his Word, and we pray that he would send his Holy Spirit to keep these young people faithful, even to the point of death, that they might receive the crown of life. God willing, the confirmands will receive the Lord's Supper for the first time with their families the afternoon of May 2.

*Both the 1:30 and 3:00 pm Confirmation services will be livestreamed and will be available for viewing after the services. In the event of overflow, both services will be available for viewing in the Grace Room.*

**Ella Noelle Bennett**

**Ephesians 5:1-2 “Be imitators of God...as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because it reminds me that I am a child of God, and that Jesus, out of love, offered himself as a sacrifice for me so that I can be saved and live with him eternally in my heavenly home. This Bible verse also reminds me that I want to walk as a child of God on this sinful earth with a sure hope of heaven, and that I should tell others about Jesus, to show love to him. I know that sometimes we all might feel that we are not good enough for others, or certain people don't love us, but even if I am feeling hopeless, I can always turn to God for help through prayer. I can also always remember that God created me in his own image and that in Christ I am perfect in his sight. Another thing that sticks out to me is that God offered his only Son for all people so that we can live eternally, and this is a huge comfort to me because it shows that God would do anything for me, because I am his child.

**Landon Matthew Boesel**

**Philippians 4:13 “I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because every time I hear it I think about God and how much he has blessed me. Sometimes I take the abilities I have for granted, and this passage reminds me to give all the glory to him, whether it is in school, athletics, or anything he has given me the ability to do. This passage gives me confidence that God is with me through everything, and if he is with me, I can overcome any obstacle or temptation that is in my way. This passage also reminds me that since God gave me my talents and abilities, I should use them to praise and thank him. No matter what happens, God will always be there to help me. No matter what hardships I may encounter, this passage gives me confidence knowing he is only a prayer away to help me and give me strength to get through them.

**Josiah Anthony Richard Bonack**

**Matthew 11:28-29 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”**

Jesus begins this passage with an invitation: “Come to me.” Jesus desires to be an intimate part of my life. He wants to help me through every struggle and challenge--physical, spiritual and emotional. “All you who are weary and burdened.” Jesus understands that sometimes I am going to be tired and feel like giving up. He understands that part of that burden I will bring on myself because of my own sin. “And I will give you rest.” So, he shows me where to find true respite from this troubled world and from my sin—in the spiritual peace he won for me through his death and resurrection. “Take my yoke upon you.” Jesus is offering to be with and help me. I do not have to face my struggles alone. “And learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart.” Jesus, my greatest and best Teacher, will always be kind, gentle and patient with me when I sin. “And you will find rest for your souls.” As I go through life, I know there will be challenges and struggles that will trip me up. It is comforting to know that Jesus' invitation is always there for me.

**Jordan Cole Ciula**

**Deuteronomy 31:6 “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”**

When I was given the task to pick a bible verse for my confirmation, I started looking at different reasons for my choice that would mean a lot to me and would keep me inspired throughout all my life. The first reason is the way Jesus loves. The second reason is that, as a Christian, how does Jesus inspire me? The third reason is what are things God has promised us for life on Earth? And the fourth reason is what will help me, through the Lord's word, to live a better life here on Earth? I found Deuteronomy 31:6, and I felt this verse fit one of the reasons I was looking for. By reading this verse, I felt the Lord was telling me that if I do my part and keep my faith strong in the Lord, I will not have to fear anything of this world. God will stay with me and keep me safe. This is his promise to me. I hope when other Christians read my verse, they are inspired and find it to be strengthening to them also.



### **Joseph Christopher Edlebeck**

**1 Peter 1:15 “Just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do.”**

I have chosen this to be my confirmation verse because one day in third grade I remember that Mrs. Steinbrecher read this verse and she said that she would like one of us to choose this verse as their confirmation verse. This passage is also important to me because it is saying that God is holy, making me want to be holy. I am holy in Christ and I want to live a holy life. God’s standard for me is to live like a believer in him, and I want to push to make that standard. Although my sinful flesh is full of sin, I can still strive to do God’s will and only through the Holy Spirit does God see me as having achieved perfection and holiness in Christ. Jesus showed me what a holy life looks like for God. I want, like Jesus, to submit my life to my heavenly Father and be holy.

### **Mya Grace Ender**

**Psalms 16:7-8 “I will praise the LORD, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.”**

I chose this passage because it shows us that the Lord is always there for us, and we can’t be shaken. Also that we should praise him, because he guides us wherever we go. These words serve to remind me and guide me because it helps me to live a life that God would want me to live. Life does of course have troubles, not just for me but for everyone in this world. This passage reminds me to give these issues to God and to let him lead the way in my life. He should be at the center of our lives, and we should trust in him.

I am a Christian. My Savior, Jesus challenges me in this passage to trust him with my life. We should live our lives in a way that God wants us to, not in a way that the world expects us to live. So, if we have God at our right hand and spread his love to everyone around us, we will not be shaken. This verse inspires me to trust God, for in him nothing is impossible.

### **Nathan Scott Fechtmeyer**

**Joshua 1:9 “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation passage because it gives me the assurance that God will be with me wherever life may take me. It gives me courage to spread God's Word to people that may have never heard it. I also picked it because it tells me that I should never be afraid, and this gives me the courage to stand up to the devil and make the right decisions when it might not be the popular decision. I love knowing that I am safe and protected wherever I go, and that I should never be afraid because God is with me. Not knowing what God has in store for me, this passage reassures me I should make the decision that is God-pleasing. I know that he will help me through the hard times in my life. I can take comfort in this passage every day of my life, whether it be during hard times or good times.

### **Brody McAllister Gaengel**

**Ephesians 5:1-2 “In Christ God forgave you. Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because the book of Ephesians talks about how to live as a child of God. As I go through life, I will not have the opportunity to be in a Christian school and hear the Word every day. Knowing that I will make mistakes and need to keep Jesus in my life, this verse is a reminder that God is always with me. This verse also provides me comfort that Jesus gave the ultimate sacrifice so that I can live an eternal life. My faith has taught me to forgive others that have done wrong to me, just as Jesus has forgiven me. I am to be an imitator of God, not just in how I live my life, but also to bring others closer to him. Living a life of love means showing my Christian faith in my words and actions. Because God gave his Son to be the ultimate sacrifice, I do my best and will sacrifice my selfish desires and put God first.

### **Joshua Robert Gawlitta**

**Jeremiah 29:11** “I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

I chose this as my confirmation verse because God promises that he will have us live in peace, save us from evil, and give us a life filled with hope. God tells us what he is doing for us, so we stay faithful to him. This shows how much God loves us. He will save us from having evil thoughts. He will make sure we have peaceful thoughts and a future with hope.

These words comfort me and remind me that God invites us to believe in him and that he will keep us safe from Satan and all evil. They guide me to do the right things instead of the wrong.

I am a Christian. My Savior Jesus inspires me to be faithful all of my life. He inspires me because he was brave enough to die and be humiliated in front of a whole bunch of people. I should not care what other people think of me; I should always be myself. Jesus teaches me about God and what God has done for me and all people on earth. He challenges me to stay faithful through the good times and the difficult.

This verse inspires my life goal to stay faithful and to love and honor God. It inspires me to do the right and not the wrong. It inspires me to focus on the good things of life rather than on the bad that has happened. God has a plan for my future; if there are hard times now it will all be OK in the end.

### **Jenna Mae Goelz**

**Deuteronomy 31:6** “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because it is an excellent reminder for me to stay firm in my faith and not to be afraid to spread love, positivity, and the gospel. The devil and the world will tempt me and try to lead me astray, but I shouldn't be scared of them because God is always with me during hard times and good ones, too. It reminds me that God will never leave my side and knows what is best for me. It will also be a great comfort when I am stressed, nervous, or anxious. It is a wonderful reminder to me to be strong as I move onto the next stages of my life. God will be with me through it all.

### **Caleb Bryan Guhr**

**Ephesians 4:32** “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

I chose Ephesians 4:32 as my confirmation verse because I have learned that God was born and died for us. He did this even when he knew that it would be painful. In this essay I will tell you how this verse guides, reminds, comforts, inspires, teaches, and challenges me. I will also tell you the life goal it inspires me to achieve. This verse serves to tell people that we are forgiven by God. It guides me to forgive people. It reminds me that as God forgives me so I should forgive others. The words comfort me by saying that God forgives me for my sins. I am a Christian. As my Savior, Jesus inspires me to learn more about what he did for me. This verse teaches me that even though I am not perfect, and I sin, God forgives me in Jesus. It challenges me to forgive anyone if they ask for forgiveness even if they did something terrible. This verse inspires me to have a life goal to achieve the ability to forgive anyone for whatever they did to hurt me in any way.

### **Kalleigh Rose Henneberry**

**Psalms 46:5** “God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.”

I chose this verse because God's care for his Church reminds me that God is always with me. It gives me comfort knowing that God is with me and will help me whenever I need it. Because God is with me, nothing truly evil can happen to me and he will not let me fall. It helps me understand that whatever I am doing, He will always be there to help and guide me to do the right thing. And God will always help me if I am doing something wrong or need his help. I will not fall because no power on earth can stand against God and His will. I will always be safe from all the world's harms and the actions of everyone around me. God will always be by my side no matter what happens.

**Lucas Paul Hudock**

**Deuteronomy 10:20 “Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because, as I go through life, I need to stay faithful to God’s Word and continue to serve him. I need to remember that God is who I need to live for, and everything I do, I do for him, whether school, sport, or everyday life. I know that I will have challenges in my life that can pull me away from God, but I need to stay faithful to God in anything that comes my way. Sometimes it will seem easier to turn away from his Word, but I will be rewarded with heaven by staying true to my faith. As I look back on my confirmation, this verse will be a reminder to me to continue to pray to God, rely on Him to care for me, and to serve him in ways that are pleasing to him.

**Danica Rae Hulbert**

**Ephesians 2:10 “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because it has stuck with me throughout my whole middle school years, and I am prepared to use it in high school and college as I continue my path as a Lutheran. I came across it in 6th grade during silent reading time right after recess. After that day I knew that it would be the passage that would stick with me throughout my whole life. Another reason why this passage has stuck with me is because my parents have always taught me to treat others with kindness, even when they are not treating me with kindness, no matter what. This verse has helped me find out what I would like for a job when I am older. I’ve always wanted to be a teacher, and this passage helps me to remember that God has laid out good works for me to do for him, not to get to heaven, but out of love for him.

**Trevor Keith Jahns**

**1 Corinthians 16:13 “Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because it reminds me that, while my faith may be challenged as I leave St. Paul’s and enter high school, I should always stand firm in my faith and my love for my Savior, Jesus Christ.

This verse is a reminder to keep on the right path in Jesus though others may try to persuade me to turn away from him. When I read the verse, I am reminded of what is truly important in my life, on earth and in heaven. I am reminded that I am a son of God through my faith in Jesus and should be strong for my Father in heaven in thanks for all he has done for me. Everything I do is stained with my sin, but through Jesus God sees me as holy, and I will want to base my life on that knowledge, even though the world tells me otherwise.

**Trinity Kay Kelley**

**Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”**

I chose this verse to remind me that God has a plan for me to bless me and to give me hope for my future. I should never give up hope. No matter what situation I am dealing with, the verse tells me that these things are in passing and God has a plan. The verse also reminds me not to believe in things that seem to be too good to be true and instead, trust God and his plans. It is only in his plan that I can be assured of hope for the future. If I seek God with my heart, I will never be weary even if I experience hardship in my life.



**Callie Anna King**

**Isaiah 41:10 “Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because it has been a Bible passage that I have carried with me my entire life. When I was in fourth grade, my teacher had us do memory work and we would memorize a Bible passage every night. One of those nights I had a nightmare and was feeling a bit scared. When I went to memorize my passage the next day, it gave me the exact words I had needed to hear-Isaiah 41:10. God had known my troubles and was telling me not to fear, for he was with me. Ever since then, this passage has been a guiding light that has gotten me through many troubles in my life. Through this Bible passage I have been able to face my fears whenever I am feeling scared or worried because I know that God is my God, and he will never leave me. In Catechism class Pastor Kuehl tells us how truly amazing God is and how God’s love for us is greater than we can imagine. I think that this verse truly helps me see that and is a strong message that I will never forget.

**Kate Elaine Klein**

**Romans 1:17 “In the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed -- a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith.’”**

I have chosen this verse to be my confirmation verse because I love the words, “The righteous will live by faith.” This means a lot to me because when you are righteous to God, he will strengthen your faith and you will live with your faith until you go to heaven to be with Jesus Christ forever. It also says, “... in the gospel, the righteousness of God is revealed.” This shows that the gospel is true, and we can believe it. “... by faith from first to last ...” I believe this is true because, if you are faithful for even a little while, you will be saved and go to heaven! I think it is trying to hint that even the first people of this earth all the way to the last people on earth (of course, who are believers) will be saved and have eternal life with the Lord.

**Audrey Lee Kremkau**

**1 John 4:19 “We love because he first loved us.”**

I chose this verse for my confirmation because it is through God’s love that we learn to love each other—like the giving and receiving of love between your family and friends. God shows his love for us not only with his actions, but also with his words and kindness. He wrote the Bible to show his children the loving miracles he has done for us. He sacrificed his one and only son for our sins. He continues to provide for his children everyday with food and water, clothes, a warm, safe household, and loving friends. God continues to show his love by providing me with the loving family that surrounds me.

God has also blessed me with many abilities—to love others, to do well in school, to show kindness and respect for others. I show my love for God by loving in these ways. I also show my love for God by sharing God's word with those who don't know it or aren't a part of God's family. I also can help others by possibly donating to the poor, or even giving food to a food pantry. I also try my hardest to live for God, respecting his laws and his words.

**Evelyn Lily Kwiatkowski**

**Revelations 2:10 “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”\**

I chose this passage for my confirmation verse because it gives me a reassuring feeling that one day I will see God in heaven and get to be with him forever. This passage helps me also remember that there is a place that God has prepared in heaven especially for me that will be my forever home, and that not only I but all believers will be seated beside Jesus. This passage also helps keep me strong in faith because it reminds me that God will never let anyone down and that heaven will be beyond our wildest dreams. One day, just one random day, God will come to judge both the living and the dead, and until that day, no matter if it's tomorrow or thirty years from now, we need to stay connected to the truth of God’s Word. There is no place like a church where you can be surrounded by believers and grow your faith by learning more every day. The world may not contain only believers, but that's what we as Christians are here for, to spread God's Word. God has done everything necessary for our hearts to grow in his Word so that we can someday enjoy a perfect life in heaven with our most holy God.

**Kalissa Morgan McLain****Psalm 46:5 “God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because it reminds me that God works everything for a reason. You might not see it now, but you will eventually realize it or it will come to you. God will help me anytime, anyplace, and anywhere, no matter if I'm having a good day or a bad day. He looks out for his children and does the best thing possible. God is the center core of everything; he's the center core of me, so I will never fall or grow away from him because I am his own child, and he will never give up on me. He's like my Earthly parents, who will try to do everything they think is the best for me. They try to steer me the right way, like staying out of trouble, respecting others, doing everything to the best of my ability, and working hard to do things and not expecting things to be given to me on a silver platter, without working for them.

**Arabella Sophia McPherson****John 14:27 “Peace I leave you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”**

I chose this passage as my confirmation verse because I think it is very comforting and can help me later in life. I often get scared of small things, such as lightning, the dark, or my dog dying sometime in the future. Jesus' words can be helpful for me to think about in these times because he says, “Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” I think it is very helpful for me (or anyone) to know that God is there for me and I will always know someone is here for me, so I don't have to be afraid.

When Jesus says, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you,” it helps me feel relaxed and comfortable. Sometimes my life can be overwhelming with many things happening at once, and this verse can help me stay focused and ready for what is coming next. I can be happy to try new things that may scare me, like skydiving or going on big jumps with my snowboard, because God gave me that ability or talent and I should not be scared to become better at it.

We should all trust in Jesus to comfort us with his Word or just by praying. Not everything we want to happen will happen, or things in our lives may scare us. We should always stay positive and know that God is with us through tough times.

**Alex David Mueller****Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”**

This is one of the most comforting verses in the Bible because I get comfort in knowing that in all of my days on this earth my God and Lord are my strength in everything I undertake. To me this passage jumps out of the pages of the Bible and conveys that with God, through God, and through the almighty power of his Word there is no such thing as impossible. It shows me that through all the days of my life, when times are hard, never to give up or refuse to go onward, because I know that God gives me the strength and capability I need to overcome certain obstacles and hardships I will come across in life. Through this passage I know that all my accomplishments, my achievements, and my victories are won by God, because I don't possess the power and ability to succeed on my own. I know that he is my strength and will always be by my side to walk me through the rest of my days.

**Lily Aiya Renee Nagel**

**Psalm 73:23-24 “Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.”**

This verse reminds me that God’s hands hold me, guide me, and lead me throughout my life. “Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand”: God is always with me, even if I feel alone and even in the worst circumstances. In this past year with the pandemic, lockdowns, and social distancing God may have seemed far away, but his hands are always lovingly and firmly holding us. He is in control and will not let go. “You guide me with your counsel”: Listening to the world often leads us down the wrong path. Having God in my life helps me make better decisions and gives me direction. He guides me with his hands. “...and afterward you will take me into glory”: Jesus died for my sins and I will gain eternal life through the gift of that sacrifice. Living a good life is not enough to receive eternal life, but I want to do good things in order to thank God. I am thankful that, at the end of my life, God will lead me with his hands into his presence where I will live forever glorifying him. May our loving Father’s hands hold, guide, and lead all of us until we are safely home.

**Luke Scott Neumann**

**Luke 1:37 “For no word from God will ever fail.”**

I chose this verse to be my confirmation verse because I actually use it in my personal life. When I saw all the passages on the three full pages of Bible verses given to us, I thought to myself “This is an impossible task to pick one”. Then I saw Luke 1:37, “Nothing is impossible with God.”

Ever since I was a little boy, this passage was always told to me by my mother. Whenever I had a worry or concern, I would feel that whatever I was worried about was impossible to get through. My parents would help me overcome those challenging life obstacles. They would remind me that nothing is impossible with God. My parents are always there for me and the passage my mother taught me will always give me comfort.

These words serve to remind me that anything can be possible as long as God is by my side.

I am a Christian. As my Savior, Jesus challenges me in this passage to pray. When you pray, you are talking to God and making sure he is with you.

This verse inspires me to have a life goal to never lose faith in God and to never stop believing in him. Jesus died for me, and I will live my life to serve Jesus.

**Jacob Brian Ralston**

**John 12:36 “Put your trust in the light while you have it, so that you may become sons of light.”**

I chose this as my confirmation passage because it reminds me that I need to stay in faith so that I may remain a child of God. Naturally, we fall into temptation, but we have to trust in God to help us through those struggles. God’s word is the main tool we can use to fight. We need to rely on him through every trouble. This passage also reminds me that time on this earth is short, and we need to spend as much time sharing God’s Word and bringing others closer to Christ. We need to spend as much time studying Scripture and praising God during this time on earth, so that when Judgement Day comes, we will live forever in heaven with Jesus.

**Brady Tyler Rudoll**

**Proverbs 11:17 “Those who are kind benefit themselves, but the cruel bring ruin on themselves.”**

I have chosen this verse as my confirmation verse because it is telling you to go through life being kind and then you will benefit yourself, but if you go through life being cruel you will bring ruin on yourself. If you go and be kind to others you will live a happier life and bring others to Christ. Your faith will also grow, and you will be helping the church grow. Jesus said, “Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). God has put us on this earth to go and spread his Word throughout all the world and bring others to Christ. God says cruelty is a sin and brings many bad things to the cruel person. This passage is a good reminder to go throughout life being kind and helping others and not being mean or rude to everybody, but going and showing your faith and bringing others to faith in Jesus Christ.

### **Emerson James Rush**

**Joshua 1:9 “Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”**

I have chosen Joshua 1:9 as my confirmation verse because many times I have often found myself alone and afraid in some cases. When I was younger, I used to be afraid of the dark or what was in the dark, and knowing this passage back then would have comforted me greatly. Now I say this verse to myself whenever I am in an uncomfortable situation or whenever I feel in danger, or even if it's in a sports game and it's up to me to make the decisive shot for the win. I know that God was with Jesus by his side when he suffered on the cross. This comforts me to know that he is also with me the same way he was with Jesus. I can be present for others when they are afraid or alone by sharing with them the same comforting news I got from God. I will always go back to this verse when I am put in an uncomfortable situation and will never forget God's saving word.

### **Ethan Michael Schutten**

**Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”**

I have chosen this verse to be my confirmation verse because it says that you should believe that God will take care of you and then trust him. These words serve to comfort me by showing that God will help me. He will guide me, he will encourage me to always believe in him, and he will remind me of his care when I have faith in him. I am a Christian. As my Savior, Jesus inspires me by saying that he will direct thy paths, teaching me not to lean on my own understanding but challenging me to trust in him to help me. This verse inspires me to have a life goal to never rely on myself but to trust in God and he will direct me.

### **Michael William Schwartz**

**Matthew 21:22 “If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”**

I chose this verse to be my confirmation verse because I stand for what it says and believe that God listens to us as long as we have faith in him and trust him. This verse inspires me to have a life goal never to doubt God and that he is doing everything for a reason. We just need to believe, and he will answer our prayer. These words will guide me through life as I always remember where I came from and as I take that knowledge into the future where I will serve God, my creator. I am a Christian. My Savior Jesus inspires me to believe in him. He challenges me to do my best in the world he created. He teaches me to live in him and to believe that he is always with me wherever I go.

### **Jordyn Marie Stubblefield**

**Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because it gives me great comfort knowing that God is always there with me. Through many of the hardships in my life I realize that God has been there for all of it; it strengthens me and gives me the motivation I need to get through the day. Many troubles have led me away from God and his Word, but after reviewing this verse and getting more involved with the Bible again, I feel alive and joyful in my everyday life. Jesus has saved me and others from our sins, and it gives me great joy knowing that. This school has also given me the opportunity to learn about God all throughout the school day and I can praise and thank God for all of it. Everything I do during the school day and just in everyday life, I can do for God and he will give me great strength as I get through it. I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior.

**Emilia Marie Trettin**

**Ephesians 3:17-18a “So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”**

I have chosen this as my confirmation verse because it is comforting to know how much love Christ has for everyone. Also, that I am prayed for to have power to grasp how great the love of Christ is. That just shows how much love God has for his holy people. He cares so much about us, and that is really nice. I hope that the more I grow in my faith, I will realize how deep God’s love is for me and others. When I go through hard times, I will remember that God loves me, and everything will be okay because he loves me. When I live my life, I will know that God is loving me while I am living. God’s love is so big that we can’t even understand it. We need people like Jesus to realize how much he loves us. He was willing to suffer and die for us, so that we will live a perfect life in heaven.

**Logan Riley Tutkowski**

**Revelation 2:10: “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”**

The reason I chose this passage is because it gives me assurance that if we stay faithful to Christ, we will receive the crown of life. I have been learning the message of God for the past ten years of my life, and I am very blessed to have been surrounded with Christians for that period of time. But now I am leaving my school and going to a public school, and I think I am ready to spread the word of God to future friends that may not have been blessed with the Word of God in their family or school. After seeing everything that has happened throughout the past year, the world seems more divided than ever, we need to keep the faith, because the devil is trying to use the bad times we are living in to try to pull us away from our faith with God. We should always try to stay in faith with our lord, especially in the bad times, because that’s when he wants us to call upon his name the most. I have chosen this passage because of the short, and straight-to-the-point message it gives us. “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.” When God sent his only Son to the cross for our salvation, he did it out of love. And when Jesus was suffering on the cross, he saw the face of every human being that ever lived, and is yet to be born, and he died for us out of love. And he gave us the promise of eternal life in heaven if we in faith show love back. And I know that when I die God will be waiting for me to welcome me home. That is why I chose that passage.

**Teagan Andrea Vahovick**

**Romans 12:12 “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”**

I chose this verse because on my walk with Jesus. I want him to know I love him, and these are three ways I can show my love for him. first, I can be hopeful for all the blessings he will give me throughout my life. I am grateful for what he does for me and that also makes me joyful. I am also hopeful for his second coming so I can be with all the people I love in heaven. next, i will trust in God to bring me joy while in affliction. I will be patient knowing he is working on making me happier. Lastly, I will keep praying consistently throughout my life, so he is constantly reminded how much I love him. I will keep doing these things until the day God calls me home to heaven.

**Sydney Jean Younk**

**Isaiah 43:2 “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you. When you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned. The flames will not set you ablaze.”**

I chose this as my confirmation verse because it makes me feel comfort to know God is with me through everything. I first stumbled upon this verse in 4th grade and ever since it has always stuck with me. This year I tried a lot of new things. I tried cross country for the first time, and I was very nervous that I wasn't going to do well enough, but the words “I will be with you,” echoed in my head before every race, making me feel that I was not alone in this new sport, that God was with me. I also flew on a plane for the first time this year, and I was more than terrified, but then I thought of everything God had been with me through, all that I have faced and he has never left me, so why would God not be with me through this? God has used this verse to apply to my life in many more ways than one and every time I am struggling, I can just remember God’s words from Isaiah 43:2.