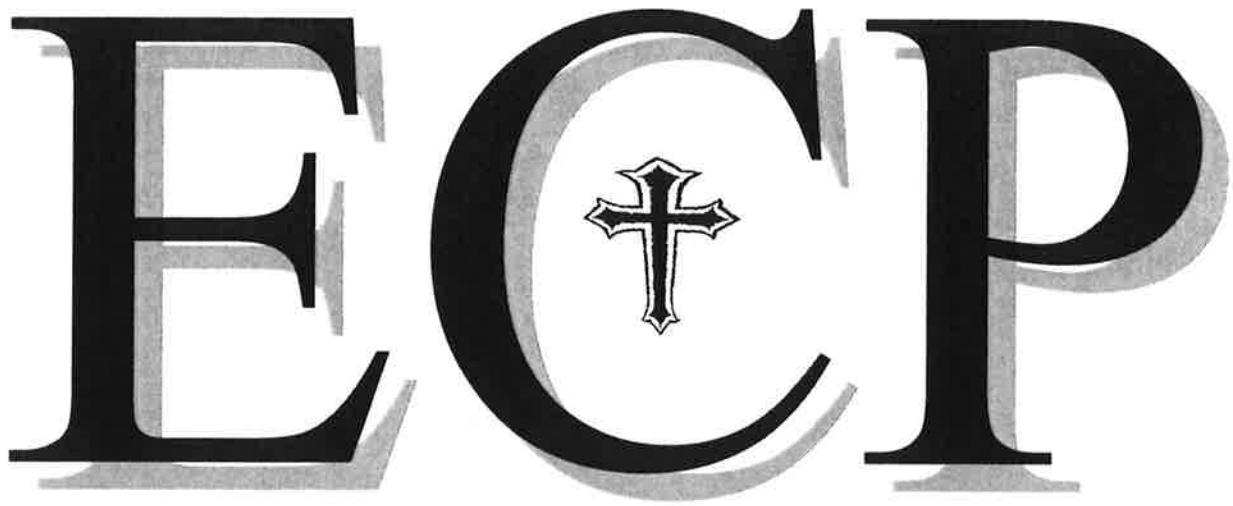


# ECP



Emmanuel's Confirmation Program

## Orientation Packet

This packet is designed to give parents and students a thorough overview of Emmanuel Lutheran Church's two and half year Confirmation program (ECP). If after reading this you have any questions please give our Director of Youth and Family (Jim Cooper) a call @ 261-0894

Revised February 2015

# Welcome to Emmanuel Lutheran Church's Confirmation Program

## **Our Church's Mission:**

A Christ centered community where God's Spirit transforms our lives as we worship, learn, love, share and serve.

## **Why Get Confirmed?**

Do you need to go through Confirmation to go to heaven? Of course not. *Then why should you get confirmed?* Through Confirmation, you "confirm" the promises made in faith at the time of your baptism. Our program is designed to help you better understand how you can keep these promises as you live as followers of Jesus Christ.

Following Christ is the most important commitment a person can make. While that commitment is between you and God, if the commitment is real, it will show. Martin Luther put it this way: "We are saved by faith alone, but faith alone isn't faith."

At Emmanuel, we want your Certificate of Confirmation to mean more than "I slept through 2 ½ years of classes." Confirmation *isn't* graduation; it's a significant step in a victorious, Spirit-filled life. Our hope is that our Certificate of Confirmation means for you Christianity isn't a label, it's a lifestyle.

## **What does Emmanuel's Confirmation Program Involve?**

Emmanuel Lutheran's Confirmation Program is known as ECP, which stands for Emmanuel's Confirmation Program. The 2-½ year program consists of 7 core components. The goal of these 7 core components is to educate and assimilate youth into the life of the church all year long, rather than, more traditional programs that only require class time. Not only will kids learn more, there is a much higher chance that they will continue on in the life of the church well after their confirmation ceremony.

Now let us tell you about ECP. To make things simpler, we've created a diagram on the following page to illustrate how the program will work.

- ECP will be 2 ½ years and involve 7 core components.
- Students will officially enter into the program on Ash Wednesday of their 6<sup>th</sup> grade year. There will be a special commissioning prayer for all the new confirmands at the service.

- ❑ **IMPORTANT.** Although enrolled students are officially “in confirmation” the entire 2 ½ years, they actually **ONLY** attend seven special confirmation classes during the season of lent each year. The diagram lists the class curriculum for the entire three years.
- ❑ The other 6 core components are areas in which confirmands participate throughout the year. The goal here is to keep youth connected to the life and mission of the church and to establish a Christian life-style. The six core components are as follows:
  1. The first is **Community**: Community represents their involvement in our main junior high program. The core goal of this event is to have fun, build healthy friendships and grow in faith. In order to complete this core component, students would need to attend at least 50% of the scheduled events during their confirmation years.
  2. The second is **Summer Camps**: Words can hardly explain all that can come from a good summer camp experience. Some experts say that more happens in one week of summer camp than an entire year of Sunday school. I tend to agree. Our goal is to have every youth in our 2 ½ year confirmation program attend at least 1 summer camp. Emmanuel’s youth ministry will plan all summer camps.
  3. The third is **Retreats**: Retreats are high-energy boost of fun, great memories and deep spiritual impact. They make a huge difference in kids’ lives. Our goal is to have every youth in our 2 ½ year confirmation program attend at least 2 retreats. Emmanuel’s youth ministry will plan all retreats.
  4. The fourth is **Continuing Education**: The goal here is to keep growing in faith throughout the year. We would like every youth in our 2-½ year confirmation program to complete at least 20 hours of continuing education. Attending Sunday School and/or our Wednesday night programs could be a way of meeting this goal.
  5. The fifth is **Worship**: The goal here is to get into the habit of attending worship. It’s often easy to sleep in, or replace worship with work or play. We don’t want this to be the case. We would like every youth in our 2-½ year confirmation program to actively attend at least 30 worship services and complete 20 Worship Worksheet for each.
  6. The sixth is **Service**: The goal here is to develop a Christ-centered servant-hood mentality in our young people. With this in mind, we would like every youth in our 2-½ year confirmation program to complete 15 hours of acts of service. Several examples could be, helping in the nursery, mowing someones lawn for free, helping in the community, helping in various areas at the church, etc.

## **What's after ECP?**

If this program is successful and by the grace of God it will be, not only will students have learned a ton of content, they will have been connected to the life and mission of the church (through the youth ministry) for the past 2.5 years. The likelihood of them continuing is high. Not to mention, at the start of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year, they are quickly and lovingly invited into the Sr. High Ministry.

## **Class Times, Topics and Dates for ECP (Lent 2002)**

### **Times 6:00- 7:30 PM**

Light Meal Provided in the Family Life Center	5:45-6:20PM
Youth Meet for Class	6:30-7:30PM
Parents can attend the Lent Service	6:30-7:30PM

**Here is an example of some of the topics that will be covered.**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Topics**

- Ash Wed. commissioning new confirmands at Service.
- A Pastor speaks to Confirmands
- A Pastor speaks to Confirmands
- Small Groups (Topic- The Ten Commandments)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Ten Commandments)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Ten Commandments)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Ten Commandments)

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Topics**

- Ash Wed. commissioning new confirmands at Service.
- A Pastor speaks to Confirmands
- A Pastor speaks to Confirmands
- Small Groups (Topic- The Apostles' Creed)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Apostles' Creed)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Apostles' Creed)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Apostles' Creed)

### **8th Grade Class Topics**

- Ash Wed. commissioning new confirmands at Service.
- A Pastor speaks to Confirmands
- A Pastor speaks to Confirmands
- Small Groups (Topic- The Lord's Prayer)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Lord's Prayer)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Lord's Prayer)
- Small Groups (Topic- The Lord's Prayer)

### **What if your youth is already in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade?**

If your youth is in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade we would like them to begin confirmation this coming Ash Wednesday. Everyone will start at his or her existing grade level. All the requirements will be adjusted accordingly. (See specific Tracking Requirement Sheets enclosed)

### **The Remainder of this Packet**

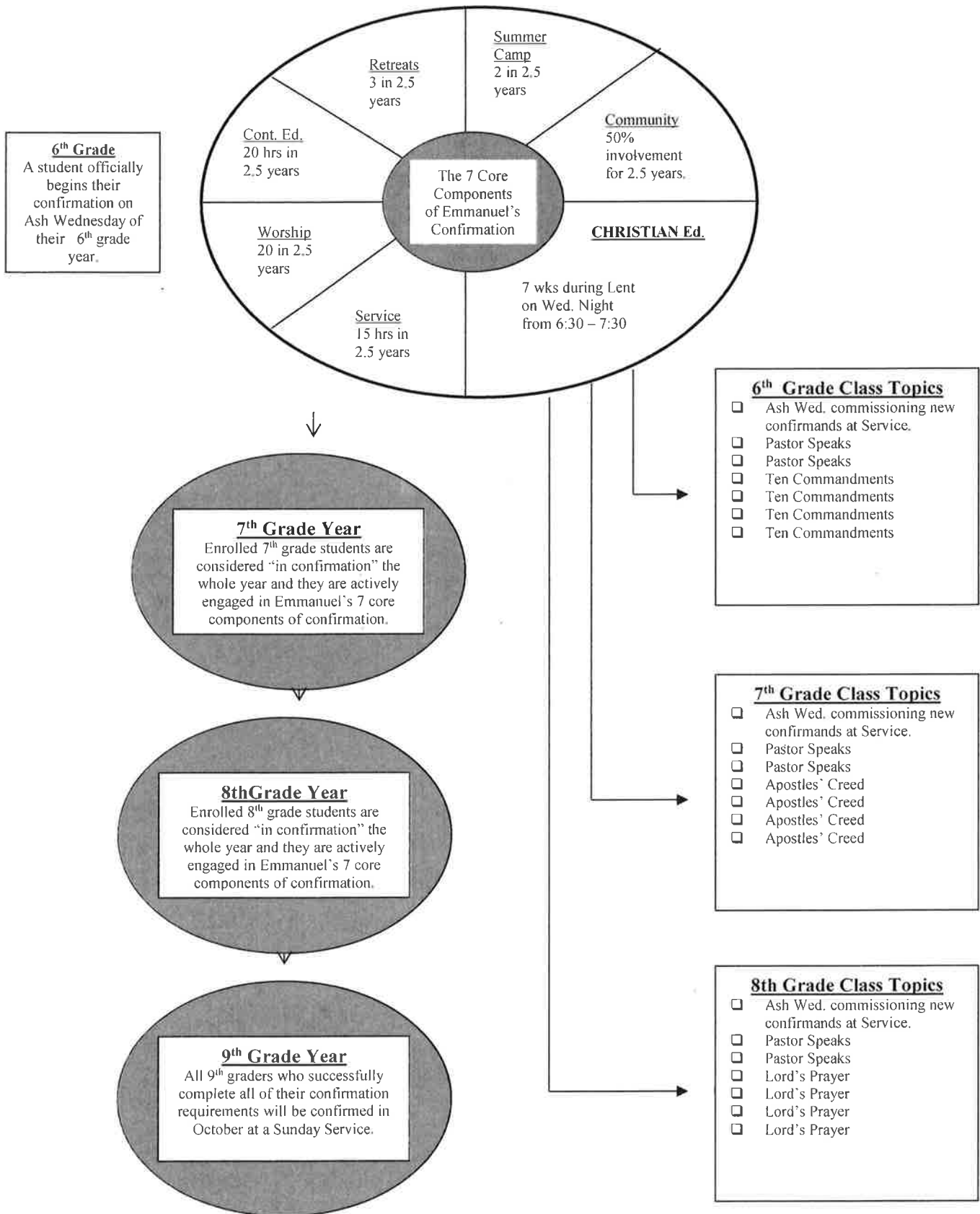
The remainder of this packet includes the following:

- Overall diagram of our confirmation program.**
- Specific Confirmation Requirements Tracking Sheets for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders**
- A sample Worship Worksheet**
- A sample Community Service Form**
- A Registration Form**

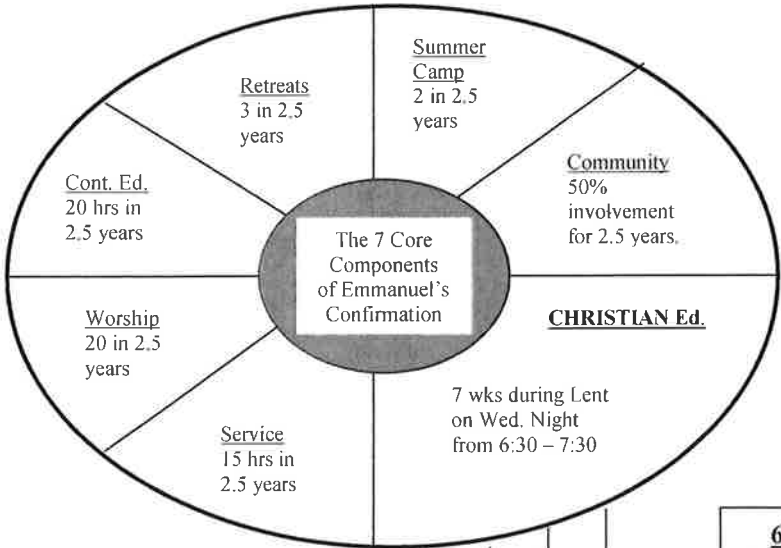
Thank you for taking the time to read this information, if you have any further question please give me (Jim Cooper, Associate in Ministry for Youth & Family Ministry) a call @ 261-0894

Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
777 Mooring Line Drive  
Naples, FL 34102

This is a diagram of Emmanuel Lutheran Church's 2-½ year Confirmation Program  
**Our goal** is to have a dynamic confirmation program where God's Spirit transforms young lives.



**6<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
 A student officially begins their confirmation on Ash Wednesday of their 6<sup>th</sup> grade year.



**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Year**  
 Enrolled 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are considered "in confirmation" the whole year and they are actively engaged in Emmanuel's 7 core components of confirmation.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Year**  
 Enrolled 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are considered "in confirmation" the whole year and they are actively engaged in Emmanuel's 7 core components of confirmation.

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Year**  
 All 9<sup>th</sup> graders who successfully complete all of their confirmation requirements will be confirmed in October at a Sunday Service.

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Topics**
- Ash Wed. commissioning new confirmands at Service.
  - Pastor Speaks
  - Pastor Speaks
  - Ten Commandments
  - Ten Commandments
  - Ten Commandments
  - Ten Commandments

- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Topics**
- Ash Wed. commissioning new confirmands at Service.
  - Pastor Speaks
  - Pastor Speaks
  - Apostles' Creed
  - Apostles' Creed
  - Apostles' Creed
  - Apostles' Creed

- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Topics**
- Ash Wed. commissioning new confirmands at Service.
  - Pastor Speaks
  - Pastor Speaks
  - Lord's Prayer
  - Lord's Prayer
  - Lord's Prayer
  - Lord's Prayer

**What's Next:** Students will be welcomed into the Sr. High ministry and other ministries of the Church in the Fall of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

# ECP-COMMUNITY SERVICE FORM

**(Total) Confirmation  
Requirement: 15 hours**

*"We are saved by faith alone, but faith alone is not faith." ~ Martin Luther*

One true measure of what you believe is what you do. That's one of the reasons our confirmation program has chosen to include service hours among its requirements. We want to encourage you to go **BEYOND** a **BELIEF** system that is satisfied with being a spectator. Our hope is that you will discover the incomparable joy and satisfaction that comes with becoming a Christian participant whose beliefs are backed up with action.

For most of you, service is already a lifestyle – You'll have your 24 hours done in no time. For the rest, we hope this will be one small step in becoming more like Jesus Christ...

*"Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant..." -Philippians 2:6-7a*

Much could be said about the value of service. But rather than read about it, our hope is that you experience it for yourself.

What you do is pretty much up to you. You can help out with ushering in church on Sundays, volunteer to mow or rake a neighbor's yard, volunteer at a nursing home, donate your time at a homeless shelter or food shelf, walk dogs at the humane society, or baby-sit for free. You can do it by yourself, as a small group, or through one of Emmanuel's organized service projects (like Habitat for Humanity).

Just about anything is okay as long as:

- You are providing a service that honors God.
- It's okay with your parent/guardians.
- It's okay with Jim Cooper
- You don't make any money (unless you donate the money to the Church or another charity).
- You fill out the bottom of this sheet each time you complete a project.

***Remember, if you make a commitment, keep it.***

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## COMMUNITY/CHURCH SERVICE PROJECT FORM

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Served: \_\_\_\_\_

Project (where it took place, when it took place, what you did): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Site Supervisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN THIS SHEET TO JIM COOPER  
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY

# ECP

## Weekly Worship Worksheet for Students in Confirmation 2015

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What part of Worship was meaningful to you TODAY?
2. How did you feel God's presence in Worship TODAY?
3. How can you apply what you learned today to your everyday life?

RETURN THIS SHEET TO JIM COOPER



# 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Requirements Tracking Sheet

This is a sheet designed to help you keep track of the progress you are making in your (total) Confirmation requirements. Below is a breakdown of what needs to be accomplished in each grade. Mark the box when the requirement has been completed!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Small Group Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Registered: Yes No Date Started \_\_\_\_\_  
(circle one)

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Requirements**

**Lent Class Attendance**  
 85% Attendance (1 absents allowed)

**2 Emmanuel Sponsored Retreats**  
 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat

**2 Summer Camps**  
 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**36 Community Events**  
*(An example of this event would be our YC – Youth Connection events)*

**15 Hours of Service**  
*(Each Square = 1 Hour)*

**20 Hours of Continuing Education** *(Sunday School Attendance.)*

**20 Worship Worksheets**

**Worship Involvement** *(3times per year)*

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Requirements**

**Lent Class Attendance**  
 85% Attendance (1 absents allowed)

**2 Emmanuel Sponsored Retreats**  
 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat

**2 Summer Camps**  
 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

**36 Community Events**  
*(An example of this event would be our YC – Youth Connection events)*

**15 Hours of Service**  
*(Each Square = 1 Hour)*

**20 Hours of Continuing Education** *(Sunday School Attendance.)*

**20 Worship Worksheets**

**Worship Involvement** *(3times per year)*

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Requirements**

**Lent Class Attendance**  
 85% Attendance (1 absents allowed)

**2 Emmanuel Sponsored Retreats**  
 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat

**2 Summer Camps**  
 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**36 Community Events**  
*(An example of this event would be our YC – Youth Connection events)*

**15 Hours of Service**  
*(Each Square = 1 Hour)*

**20 Hours of Continuing Education** *(Sunday School Attendance.)*

**20 Worship Worksheets**

**Worship Involvement** *(3times per year)*

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Requirements**

**Saturday 1/2 Day Retreat**

Scheduled in September

**Completion of Faith Statement.** *(Several page typed paper that Confirmands begin working on in the Spring of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. It's due in September of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.)*

Participation in the Confirmation Ceremony in October.

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***Congratulations! Your hard work & dedication has paid off! Your knowledge has increased & your Faith has deepened.***

***Thank you for your participation!!!***

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# ECP-Confirmation Registration

**Date of enrollment:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:**  
Please read the  
whole packet  
before signing.

Student's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ yes/no \_\_\_\_\_  
(Member- Circle one)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work - mother) \_\_\_\_\_ (work - father)

Father: \_\_\_\_\_ yes/no \_\_\_\_\_ Mother: \_\_\_\_\_ yes/no \_\_\_\_\_  
(Member- Circle one) (Member- Circle one)

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Concerns that we should be aware of: (learning disabilities, discipline, sports, friendships, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*As a parent I am committed to my child's spiritual growth and religious education. I will do my best to ensure attendance at worship and confirmation, and to encourage them in their requirements*

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*I understand what is expected of me and I will do my best to be respectful, positive and participate.*

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 777 Mooring Line Drive, Naples FL 34102  
(941) 261-0894**