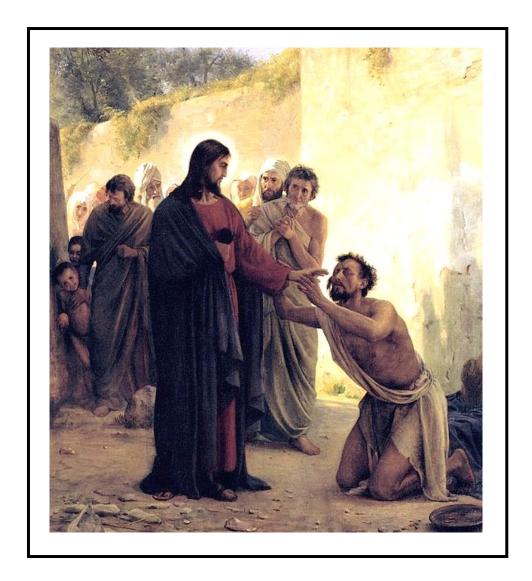
Confirmation

Lumen Christi Parish



"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because He has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

CONTACT INFORMATION



Director of Catholic Formation Meaghan Turner 262-512-8985 turnerm@lumenchristiparish.org



High School Youth Minister Olivia Brotherhood 262-512-8989 olivia@lumenchristiparish.org



Catholic Formation Admin Assistant Karen Bersch 262-512-8983 berschk@lumenchristiparish.org

Mailing Address: Catholic Formation Lumen Christi Parish 2750 W Mequon Rd Mequon, WI 53092

QR Code for Getting to Know You Survey where you get to tell us who you want to be in a group with! [



WHAT IS CONFIRMATION

"Confirmation roots us more deeply in our identity as sons and daughters of God; it unites us more firmly to Christ; it increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us; it strengthens our bond with the Church; and it gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross."

Catechism of the Catholic Church #1303

What happens at Confirmation?

Confirmation is not simply a ritual or a rite of passage. Nor does it merely symbolize a vague spiritual status. As with every Sacrament, it actually *does* what *it signifies*.

We see the bishop's hand raised in the anointing, the candidate feels and smells the chrism oil, and hears the bishop proclaim, "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit." What we physically see, hear, feel, and smell at Confirmation is an *anointing, a sealing with the Holy Spirit*.

Confirmation brings about a *permanent* change to those who receive it. In the Old and New Testaments, anointing made someone a king, a priest, or a prophet, and gave them some Mission under God's call. The Church tells us that we are anointed for these very same roles in God's Kingdom, and called to join Jesus' very same Mission, when we receive Baptism and Confirmation.

When the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles as they prayed together at Pentecost, the effects of this outpouring were immediately apparent. Emboldened by the power of the Spirit, the overjoyed apostles couldn't stop talking about Jesus. They proclaimed their faith fearlessly. The presence of the Holy Spirit in their souls empowered them to speak the truth of Jesus Christ. Confirmation empowers us with *the very same Holy Spirit!* Working through what is visible and sensory, the same Holy Spirit who was poured out on the apostles at Pentecost makes a home in each Confirmed soul. The Catechism of the Catholic Church lists five effects of this outpouring:

- It affirms our identity as children of God
- It unites us more firmly to Christ
- It increases in us the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- It strengthens our bond with the Church
- It gives us the strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by our words and actions, to be fearless witnesses to Christ and to never be ashamed of our faith.

"Remember, then, that you received a spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear.

Keep safe what you received. God the Father sealed you, Christ the Lord strengthened you and sent the Spirit into your hearts as the pledge of what is to come."

St. Ambrose

WHAT I AM CALLED TO AS A CONFIRMATION PARENT

Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children. Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. (CCC #2225)

THIS MEANS: The Church firmly believes and upholds that the faith is first introduced and sustained at home. What we do in Catholic Formation is done in order **to build up your homes** and to **build up the family** in faith, which will then edify the Church. Ultimately, your children look to you for direction and reality.

Therefore, in sending your teen through Confirmation at Lumen Christi, you are called to the following:

To personally attend Sunday Mass (Eucharist) EVERY Sunday. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Faith!

Check out www.masstimes.org for Mass times ANYWHERE YOU GO!

To inquire upon what your teen is learning in Confirmation

To *continue* your own faith formation through reading, conversation, Scripture, personal devotions (prayer), etc.

To affirm the Church's teachings and allow your teen to converse with you about them

To affirm for your teen the beauty and challenges of being Catholic in the world today

To consider, examine, and research your own questions of faith

To challenge your teen to grow in her/his beliefs and actions in the world

We are here to support YOU and help you feel equipped to share the Faith with your children and with others! If you feel that no one ever shared the faith with you very well, or if you want to grow more in your own journey, please reach out and we will be happy to share resources with you and walk with you on the journey. God always has more for us!

If you have questions about any of the above, do not hesitate to reach out!

If you yourself are not Catholic or never got Confirmed and you have questions about the Faith or about the process, please reach out to Meaghan Turner (<u>turnerm@lumenchristiparish.org</u>). She is happy to answer any questions or give guidance!

WHAT I AM CALLED TO AS A CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE

To Attend Mass EVERY Sunday! Being a Christian in this world is hard. We need each other and we need sustenance on the difficult journey. Attending Mass every week provides strong, supportive community, and the perfect Food to keep us nourished: the Eucharist--Jesus truly present.

Local Sunday Mass Times:

Lumen Christi - Sat 4:30pm; Sun 7:30am, 9am, 11am St Francis Borgia, Cedarburg - Sun 8am,10am, 6pm St Robert, Shorewood - Sun 5:30 PM Gesu - Sun 4:00 PM

Out of town? www.masstimes.org will help you find a local Catholic Mass!

To give God an opportunity to show you His love, His mercy, His ways, His will

To be present and to be an active participant in your small group: during prayer, discussions, & activities

To be on time - teens are expected to be present for the entire evening. Arriving late or leaving early without prior consent from Olivia will require you to make up the session.

To bring your questions about our faith and to ask them!

To make your faith personal - we encourage you to take responsibility of what is being asked of you this year. This includes getting involved in service, stepping up to small group weekly challenges, and prioritizing personal prayer & Mass.

Who can be Confirmed

- In the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Confirmation is celebrated in 11th grade or age 16.
- To enter into Confirmation preparation, students must have two years previous, or equivalent, formation. Confirmation Sacramental Prep builds on the foundation that is established in 9th & 10th grade formation or in Theology classes in Catholic School.
- Confirmation is a Sacrament that takes places within the parish, so preparation does as well. During preparation, we desire for teens to grow stronger together as a Faith Community and understand their role in the Church. Candidates should exhibit a personal and authentic commitment to their Faith prior to being Confirmed.
- Parents may decide for their children that they will be instructed for Confirmation;
 however, the decision to be Confirmed is up to the individual.

Note: Youth who have incomplete formation from previous years should meet with Olivia to discern readiness and go over some essentials of Faith they may have missed. After mutual discernment, they may need to be Confirmed in 12th grade.

CONFIRMATION FORMATION

2 Sunday Evenings per month 6:00-7:30pm

Our focus in Confirmation preparation is accompanying our teens – knowing them personally, meeting them where they're at in their faith, and preparing them to receive the powerful anointing of the Spirit – so that it is *their* "YES". We want to build community through intentional small groups, and be present to one another as much as possible. Small groups are facilitated by an adult small group leader. We are blessed to have an incredible team of adults dedicated to this ministry, praying for each of our teens and walking with them on this faith journey. Small groups are created taking into consideration schools & friend groups (via student survey).

Confirmation Schedule (some topics subject to change/move)

September 14 Teaching Mass (for the whole family) – The History behind the Mass

September 28 Getting to Know Each Other/Laying a Foundation

October 12 The Mission of Jesus

October 25-26 Confirmation Retreat Option #1 onsite at Lumen Christi

October 26 Going Deeper in Prayer (attendees of retreat #1 only are exempt)

November 9 The Mission of the Apostles

November 16 Sponsor Night

December 5-7 Confirmation Retreat Option #2 away @ St. Benedict's Abbey

December 14 Advent Reflection & Adoration

January 11 Circle of Grace & Supporting Mental Health

January 23-25 Confirmation Retreat Option #3 away @ St. Benedict's Abbey

January 25 The Mission of the Church (attendees of retreat #3 only are exempt)

February 1 Personal Mission: Vocation Panel Q&A

February 22 The Mission of the Saints

March 8 Relationship with the Holy Spirit

March 22 Equipped 1

April 12 Equipped 2

April 26 How Will Confirmation Affect Me?

May 3 Your Mission

May 9 Confirmation Mass at 10am with Rehearsal at 9am

Teens have the flexibility to miss one session without having to make up for it. Any missed sessions after that will require make up with their sponsor (or parent). Make-up materials will be sent to sponsor and parent. Teens who miss three or more sessions will have to meet with Olivia to catch them up and make sure they are ready for receiving the Sacrament.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Retreats can be a transformative experience - if for no other reason than it's a chance to literally retreat from the hectic pace and demands of daily life. Most of us don't get even five minutes of peace in a given day, let alone an entire weekend. It can be difficult to quiet our minds and hearts long enough to see, hear, and notice God at work in our lives. A retreat offers us the opportunity to do just that - a time to rest, reflect, pray, and play.

Knowing the unique benefits that retreats offer, every candidate preparing for the Sacrament is required to attend a retreat focused *specifically* on Confirmation. Effective Confirmation retreats invite the individual to a personal response to God's initiative of love, to turn one's whole heart to Him, and to renew (or begin) a living relationship with Him.

Retreat Dates:

Option 1: October 25th-26th on site at Lumen Christi (no overnight stay)

Option 2: December 5th-7th at St. Benedict's Abbey, Benet Lake, WI (1 night*)

Option 3: January 23rd-25th at St. Benedict's Abbey, Benet Lake, WI (1 night*)

*First evening is at LC; teens go home for night. Then Sat-Sun is at retreat center with overnight stay.

Cost of Retreats:

Option 1: \$100 – Full retreat experience, minus retreat center & transportation costs.

Option 2 and Option 3: \$185 – Includes cost of retreat center stay & bus transportation.

Due to parish stewardship (thank you for giving!) and generous donations to Youth Ministry, we are able to significantly reduce the cost to our families from what retreat expenses actually are.

We ask that teens are committed to attending the full retreat from start to finish.

With the exception of funerals or illness, there will be no allowances for coming late, leaving during, or leaving early from the retreat. Doing so both significantly impacts a person's individual experience and disrupts the entire group. We understand that we may be asking a big sacrifice of you, but we work very hard to provide excellent retreats that WILL be worth your time! The feedback we receive after retreats is overwhelmingly positive.

If there is a serious conflict with these dates, please contact Olivia.

Registration is limited to 25 teens per retreat option. We have seen over the last few years that smaller groups have stronger bonds and provide more dynamic personal experiences for the students.

Since Lumen Christi is offering three retreat weekend options, and the content of our retreat is essential to the whole of our formation year, only Lumen Christi retreats are approved options for retreat. Please do not try to find another option through a different parish. We are SO excited for you to experience our retreat!

CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

Each candidate is to have a sponsor. To be a sponsor, a person must:

- · Be chosen by the one to be Confirmed
- Be at least 16 years old
- Be a Catholic who has been Confirmed and received the Sacrament of the Eucharist, and who leads a life in harmony with the Catholic faith and the role to be undertaken
- Not be bound by any canonical penalty
- · Not be the father or mother of the one to be Confirmed

Additionally:

- Only one person can be designated as the liturgical sponsor who will present the candidate for Confirmation.
- A sponsor who cannot be present can still be a sponsor, and someone else can fill in as proxy
 at the Confirmation Mass. However, it is recommended that someone nearby and available be
 chosen as the sponsor so they can be more intimately involved in the candidate's preparation.
 - ❖ Sponsors are asked to attend Sponsor Night with their Confirmation candidate on Sunday, November 16th. If a sponsor is unavailable, a parent may attend as their proxy.
 - ❖ Sponsors are also asked to meet 1:1 with their candidate two times before Confirmation to have intentional faith conversations and experiences together. Suggestions and guidance about these meetings will be sent to sponsors directly. Sponsors will also be sent session guides to go through with their candidate when the candidate misses a formation night. This is a great opportunity for deeper conversations!

CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION NAME

Why do we choose a "Confirmation Name"? Within the Christian tradition, names hold great meaning. For example, Jesus gave His disciple Simon the name "Peter", which literally meant "rock", to emphasize Simon becoming the foundation, or rock, of the Church. Historically, people preparing for Confirmation chose a new name to symbolize their transformation in Christ, as well as to honor a holy person who has inspired them. Choosing a Confirmation name is a great honor and allows you to choose a name that has meaning for you.

What kind of name should I choose? Traditionally, we choose the name of a Saint. These are all different kinds of people who lived exceptional lives and are role models for living the Christian life. They each boldly witnessed God's love for the world in a unique way, so look for someone you relate to or who inspires you. You may wish to choose the patron saint of a particular area of interest. Patron saints are special protectors or intercessors over areas of life - occupations, illnesses, people, places, causes - anything that is important to us. For example, St. Thomas Aquinas was extremely learned and contributed greatly to Catholic theology, so he's the patron saint of students. St. Luke and St. Gianna are the patron saints of doctors. There are patrons for pretty much everything, so you will definitely find someone that connects with your life!

When do I choose a name? In March when you submit your Candidate Questionnaire for the Bishop, you will share your chosen name and the significance of it.

For a searchable list of Saints: www.catholic.org/saints/

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Whatsoever you do for the least of my people, you do unto Me (Matthew 25:40)

Jesus gave us a model for the Christian life by how He lived: constantly reaching out to the broken, the sick, the outcast, the poor, and the vulnerable. The Corporal Works of Mercy are "charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs" (USCCB). They respond to the basic needs of humanity as we journey together through this life. The Spiritual Works of Mercy are part of our Christian tradition as well, following Jesus' example of attending to the spiritual wellbeing of those He ministered to (USCCB).

We encounter Christ through the persons we encounter when we serve. This is why we challenge our students to go beyond volunteering and look at how they can *serve*.

"Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the prisoners, bury the dead, give alms to the poor...love one another as I have loved you..." (John 13:35)

We ask that students focus less on "hours" and more on *opportunities* to serve their neighbor, keeping in mind the Corporal Works of Mercy. We encourage 10-12 opportunities of service over the year, 5-6 of those being for/in the parish.

Liturgical Ministries in the Parish

Altar Server Usher/Greeter Decorate the Church Lector Instrumentalist/Musician/Choir Child Ministry Aide

Children's Liturgy Aide Middle School Youth Group

Corporal Works of Mercy through the Parish

Family Promise of Ozaukee Co Peace Makers Lunch Packing St. Hyacinth's Food Pantry St Vincent De Paul Meal Program Children's Clothing Center Various throughout the year

The list of parish service is on-going and will be updated throughout the year as the opportunities arise. Students may find their own opportunities of service, although they are welcome to complete all of their service with or for the Church.

As students serve, they should write down how they served on the provided Service Form found on the parish website under Confirmation. At the end of the year, they will write a reflection on these experiences, and return the form to Catholic Formation.

We hope the opportunities you choose to invest yourself in allow you to encounter Jesus through the people you serve. We are the Body of Christ – let's bring His love to everyone around us!

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE BISHOP

Towards the end of your Confirmation preparation, you are asked to put into writing the significance this Sacrament has for you and how you have prepared to receive it. Your reflection will be sent to and personally read by the Bishop presiding over the Confirmation Mass.

We will take time in small groups to outline your reflection to the Bishop in the form of a questionnaire. With these reflections, you will articulate your faith in writing and reflect on why you desire to be Confirmed, the decision of choosing a Saint Name, the reason for choosing your sponsor, what you have learned thus far, etc.

After you have outlined your reflection in small group, you are asked to complete the online form and submit your final questionnaire.

These are expected to be typed, spell-proofed, without grammatical errors, and complete thoughts/sentences.

All questionnaires will be reviewed. Any that require edits will be returned, and a corrected final copy will be expected in our office within the next day.

Your questionnaire to the Bishop is due NO LATER than **Sunday, March 15th**. Drop off a printed copy at the Parish Office, mail to the Parish Office (2750 W Mequon Rd), or email to Olivia Brotherhood.

CONFIRMATION ONE-ON-ONES

In March-April, candidates will have the opportunity to share one-on-one with either Olivia or a small group leader about their year's journey of preparation and their faith experiences, talk about their readiness and openness to receiving Confirmation, and ask any questions they may have. These conversations are typically 20-30 minutes long.

Names of leaders and their available meeting times will be emailed to candidates a few weeks in advance. Candidates will then sign up via the online sign up. Candidates are responsible for keeping their appointment.

A Few Questions to Expect...

- What helped you the most this year in preparing for Confirmation?
- How was your small group experience?
- · What does prayer look like in your life, and how do you connect with God?
- How are you currently practicing your faith, and how do you plan to live out your faith after Confirmation?
- · What questions do you still have?
- · Who is your Confirmation Saint? Why did you choose them?
- · What did you learn with your sponsor?
- What does it mean to be Confirmed in the Catholic Faith?
- Do you want to be Confirmed in the Catholic Faith?

Logistics

Confirmation is not a 'checklist'; however, to provide the overall picture of the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, here is the year at a glance.

Expectations

Attend Mass every Sunday, regardless of non-Catholic services, school/daily Masses, etc.

Participate in all 16 Confirmation Formation Nights (and make up what you miss).

Serve, keeping in mind the Corporal Works of Mercy, in 10-12 opportunities of service before Confirmation, including 5-6 in the parish.

Attend one of LC's Confirmation Retreats October 25-26 at LC; OR December 5-7 offsite; OR January 23-25 offsite.

Paperwork & Deadlines

Retreat registration deadlines are approx. 2 weeks before each retreat (specifics will be sent with registration details)

OCTOBER 19:

- -Sponsor Form due (provided in this packet)*
- **-Baptismal Certificate due** for teens *NOT* Baptized at Lumen Christi/St James/St Cecilia: submit a COPY of Baptismal Certificate to Karen Bersch berschk@lumenchristiparish.org
- *Sponsor Night is November 16^{th} 6-7:30pm. More info coming soon but when you pick a sponsor, be sure to have them save the date!

MARCH 15: Bishop Questionnaires due (will be explained in small groups & emails in March)

MARCH-APRIL: Confirmation One-on-One: Schedule a 30-minute conversation with Olivia or Confirmation Team member. Dates and sign up will be made available in March.

Receiving the Sacrament

Confirmation Rehearsal Saturday May 9th @ 9am – Candidate and Sponsor in Church Confirmation Mass Saturday May 9th @ 10am at Lumen Christi with Archbishop Grob Candidates & their sponsors are asked to arrive at 9am on Saturday morning to walk through the order of Mass. Mass begins at 10am and is typically 2 hours.

If you cannot attend our Confirmation, let us know as soon as possible. You must arrange before March 1st to participate in another parish's Confirmation. You must receive permission from both parishes to be Confirmed elsewhere.

WHAT TO DO AFTER CONFIRMATION

You have been Confirmed for a purpose: you have been anointed for Christ's Mission!

Here are some ideas for how you can stay close to Christ and find strength and support:

- Continue in discipleship with an accountability partner or friends from your small group.
- Be a Senior Leader! Make child or youth ministry greater by co-leading a small group.
- Continue going to Mass EVERY Sunday! Perhaps attend a weekday Mass these Masses are usually 30 minutes and are a great way to start the day!
- Check out Cor Jesu at St Robert parish on Wednesday Nights.
- Go to Confession regularly.
- Pray the Rosary as a family or on your own.
- Be intentional about prayer... turn off the TV, put away your phone for a bit, and be okay with silence.
- Journal, read a spiritual book, reflect on God.
- Make a Holy Hour in Adoration (LC has Adoration Weds. 6-8pm and Thurs. 9am-5pm)
- Reach out to Olivia or your small group leader and meet them for coffee.
- Download the Hallow App and explore the MANY prayers and reflections it offers.
- Practice a Corporal or Spiritual Work of Mercy & continue to serve others.

...But you don't need to wait to be Confirmed to do any of these!!!

As a Newly Confirmed Catholic - <u>you are called.</u> To come to a deeper encounter with Christ. To serve, give, and receive. You have been anointed for a MISSION. To go beyond the "normal" expectations of a high schooler. To make your year - your life – epic, dynamic. Be an active Disciple, a Servant Leader.

"In all the land, says the Lord, two thirds shall be cut off and die; but one third shall be left. And I will bring the one third through the fire; I will refine them as silver is refined, and will test them as gold is tested. They shall call on my name, and I will answer them; I will say, 'They are my people,' and they shall say, 'The Lord is my God." (Zechariah 13:8-9)

Unfortunately, less than one third of young people actively practice their faith once they're in college. However, studies show that religious people are happier, more fulfilled, less anxious, and have more meaningful relationships than those who are not religious. Young people need the hope that Christ offers, being formed & refined as His disciples in a community of authentic love & support.

We invite you to "be the one third", and to be the reason it grows beyond a third.

As Confirmed Catholics you will bear the responsibility to continue going deeper yourself as well as sharing Christ with others. Your peers need YOU; the Church and the world need YOUR unique gifts and insights. You are not expected to do this alone, but in community! You are part of the Lumen Christi Parish Family – and the whole Body of Christ in the universal Church! After Confirmation, you will be invited to continue participating in active discipleship and leadership, which will set you up for further growth as you journey on to new chapters in life.

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR GUIDELINES & FORM

LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH

Spiritually, a sponsor should be someone who is choosing to follow the Catholic Faith, integrating scripture, prayer, and the sacraments into their daily life, comfortable discussing their own relationship with God, and willing to act as a spiritual companion and guide.

To be eligible as a Sponsor, a person must:

- Be a full member of the Catholic Church, having received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation, and living a life in harmony with the faith and role to be undertaken.
- Be an active, practicing Catholic AND a registered member of a Catholic Church.
- Be 16 years of age or older.

Signature of Sponsor's Parish Priest:

- Not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared.
- May *not* be the candidate's parent.

If a sponsor cannot be present at the Confirmation Mass, a parent or other Confirmed Catholic may stand in as proxy.

Sponsors and candidates should get together at least 2 times before Confirmation in order to check in on how the preparation process is going, discuss the significance of Confirmation, and share Faith journeys and experiences. Sponsors will receive additional information including suggested topics, materials, and ideas.

Please contact Olivia Brotherhood with any questions: olivia@lumenchristiparish.org or 262-512-8989.

SPONSOR INFORMATION PLEASE FILL OUT COMPLETELY AND PRINT CLEARLY in the Sacrament of Confirmation. I have been requested to sponsor _____ Name of Candidate Mr./Ms./Mrs._____ Name of Sponsor Circle One Street Address City State Zip Email address I am a registered, participating member of ______ in _ State I affirm that: • I have read the above and verify that I fulfill all requirements to act as a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation. • I have received the 3 Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. I attend Mass every Sunday, live in accordance with the teachings of the Church, and witness to my faith in Jesus Christ. I will support the person I am sponsoring through prayer and by offering guidance during this time of preparation. Sponsor Signature Sponsor Printed Name Date

<u>Please return this completed document by:</u>

Signature is required to affirm the above information and that the requested Sponsor fulfills all requirements.

October 19th, 2025

Email a scanned copy to Olivia Brotherhood (olivia@lumenchristiparish.org) or return to the Parish Office:

Lumen Christi Parish ATTN: Olivia Brotherhood 2750 W Mequon Rd. Mequon, WI 53092