

FPC

# Confirmation Journey 2020



Sunday, January 12 – Sunday, April 26

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30, 2019

Registration Fee is \$30 and includes:

- New Living Translation Christian Basics Bible
- Confirmation Retreat with food and lodging
- Confirmation journal
- Class materials

Financial assistance available

For questions, please contact,  
Ezrah Schmeelk, Director of Student Ministry  
Phone (608) 949-9457 Email [eschmeelk@myfpc.org](mailto:eschmeelk@myfpc.org)

# What to Expect

## **Sunday's: Confirmation Classes & Worship**

This is an opportunity to grow in knowledge and relationship with Christ and each other over the span of the Confirmation Journey. We'll explore many ideas together, including, where is God when it hurts, God's extravagant love, the history of the church, what it means to be a follower of Jesus, as well as opportunities to ask big questions.

## **Mentor**

Part of the confirmation experience is having a mentor to walk alongside you during the journey. This mentor will be there to support and encourage you as well as a person you can learn from as they have been journeying with Christ for many years.

## **Reading the Gospel of Luke and Acts**

Each participant will read and complete a journal assignment for both Luke and Acts. These foundational Scriptures will help students have a deeper understanding of God through the Gospel of Christ in Luke as well as the beginning of the church in Acts.

- *The reading and journal for Luke must be completed by Sunday, January 12.*
- *The reading and journal for Acts must be completed by Sunday, February 23.*

## **Missing Classes**

As described in the Confirmation covenant, each student is allowed up to two excused absences. If you miss a class, that means you miss valuable information and discussion which is meant to help you through this journey. For that reason, each class that you miss, you will be required to complete the worksheet at home and write one-page summary of what you learned and how it applies to your life/faith.

- *Students must be present for the retreat, meet the Elders, & Confirmation Sunday*

## **Church Visit**

The group will go to a church that has a different style of worship than Presbyterian. Afterwards, we will have lunch together to connect and process the experience.

## **Retreat**

The retreat is a highlight of the confirmation journey. The group will have a chance to get away, bond, worship, play, learn about the history of the church, and more. The retreat is located at Bill & Maribeth Baker's renovated barn in the Mazomanie area.

## **Memory**

Students will memorize scriptures and works that will help them keep God's Word in their heart – even when they don't have access to a Bible. These include:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Lord's Prayer   | <input type="checkbox"/> John 3:16-17               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Apostle's Creed | <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 23                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doxology            | <input type="checkbox"/> OT verse of their choosing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Commandments     | <input type="checkbox"/> NT verse of their choosing |

# What to Expect

## **Testimony of Faith**

Every student will craft a testimony of faith that will help them articulate who Jesus is and how their relationship with him has changed their lives. This challenges students to think about their beliefs and faith story and be able to articulate that to others.

## **Final Meeting with Ezra and/or Rona**

Toward the end of March and beginning of April, each student will find a time to have a brief meeting with Ezra and/or Rona to connect on their testimony and questions they may have. This is also a time that students will let us know if they are planning to confirm their faith at the end of class or if they are not feeling ready yet. *The decision to confirm their faith is for the student to make, and not the parent(s)/guardian(s).*

## **Meeting with the Elders (part 1)**

Our group meets to have dinner together, prepare for the evening, and do some preparations and practice for Confirmation Sunday.

## **Meeting with the Elders (part 2)**

This is the time when the students meet with the Elders and can become members of the church. During this time, the Elders will have the opportunity to ask students a variety of questions that relate to their Confirmation experience and their faith journey.

## **Meeting with the Elders (part 3)**

After meeting with the Elders, students will enjoy a time of celebration with those who were part of this confirmation journey with them. Guests will include Elders, mentors, and parents/guardians. This will be a potluck dessert with parents/guardians in charge of providing food and drinks as well as set-up of the gathering space.

## **Confirmation Sunday**

This is the culmination of the Confirmation Journey. After numerous months of growing in relationship with God and each other, students who choose to confirm their faith will be sharing their testimony of faith during the worship services. Confirmands are required to be at both worship services for their entirety to support the team of students as well as contribute in other roles during service.

- This is an exciting time and we encourage you to invite loved ones to celebrate with you at church.

## **Baptism**

If you have not yet been baptized, and wish to join the church, please plan on connecting with Ezra about having your baptism on Confirmation Sunday.

## **Joining the Church**

If you are choosing to be confirmed, the next natural step would be to join become an active member of the congregation with your time, talents, and treasures. We will be connecting with the group on this prior to Confirmation Sunday.

# Schedule

Date	Time	Description
Sunday, Jan 12	8:45am – 11:45am	Worship (first service), connecting, reminder of expectations, discussion of the book of Luke, and group lunch with mentors
Sunday, Jan. 19	8:45am – 11:45am	Confirmation & Worship (second service) “Who is Jesus and what is the Kingdom of God?”
	<b>Read the Book of Acts and meet with your mentor during this break</b>	
Sunday, Feb. 23	8:45am – 11:45am	Confirmation & Worship (first service) “How do you spell Presbyterian?”
Sunday, March 1	8:45am – 11:45am	Confirmation & Worship (second service)
Friday, March 6 - Sunday, March 8	5:00pm – 1:00pm	Confirmation Retreat “Where is God when it hurts?”, “Extravagant love”, history of the church, BIG questions, getting to know your Bible, and more!
Sunday, March 15	<b>No Meeting: Spring Break</b>	
Sunday, March 22	8:45am – 11:45am	Confirmation & Worship (second service) “We've got the Spirit!”
Sunday, March 29	10:00am – 2:00pm	Mt. Zion Baptist & Discussion @Culvers (bring lunch \$)
Sunday, April 5	8:45am – 11:45am	Confirmation & Worship (first service) “Can you hear me now?”
Sunday, April 12	<b>No Meeting: Easter</b>	
Sunday, April 19	8:45am – 11:45am	Confirmation & Worship (second service) “Going out”
Saturday, April 25	5:00pm – 8:30pm	Team dinner, prep, meet the Elders & dessert celebration
Sunday, April 26	7:45am – Noon	Confirmation Sunday

# Confirmation Parenting Support Meeting



At FPC, we recognize that parents are the primary spiritual mentors for their children, and that we have the honor to come alongside teenagers in a unique way to help them know God, grow in their relationship with Him, and go serve others in Jesus' name.

We are thrilled to be offering a time for all parents/guardians that have students participating in Confirmation where we will show help equip them to best support their child during and after the Confirmation journey.

This one session class will be divided up into two main parts

Part 1: Supporting your child during and after Confirmation.

Part 2: Learning to create an outline of your own testimony of faith.

**Who:** All parents/guardians of Confirmands.

**What:** Confirmation support for parents

**When:** Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 9:45am-11:45am

**Where:** FPC (room TBA)

**Why:** To allow each parent to best support their child in this critical time of spiritual growth.

**\*At least one parent/guardian from each family is required to participate. \***

# Confirmation Covenant – Participant Copy

A covenant is an agreement between two or more parties. FPC desires that your confirmation journey will be a meaningful, enriching, and spiritually deepening one. If you are prepared to commit yourself to the outlined expectations, you will find a depth and richness in your journey towards confirming your faith in Jesus. We invite you and your parent(s)/ guardian(s) to study and sign this covenant. In the way that you give yourself to this experience, so you will receive.

## 1. Confirmation Classes & Worship

- I will attend, be on time, & come prepared to fully participate in both confirmation classes and worship.

## 2. Confirmation Retreat

- I will attend the Confirmation retreat in its entirety: 5pm March 6 -1pm March 8.

## 3. Mentor

- I will meet with my mentor at least once a month during the confirmation Journey.
  - Once in January, February, March, April (more if desired).
- I understand I will need to respond to my mentor in a timely manner and to try to connect with them and be flexible with my schedule.

## 4. Reading, Journaling, and Memory

- Prior to the first class on January 12, I will read the entire book of Luke and complete the accompanying journal. I will do the same for the book of Acts by February 23.
- I will spend time learning and memorizing the assigned scriptures and works and come prepared to share them from memory when requested.

## 5. Attendance Expectations

- I understand that I can miss up to two scheduled classes without penalty and that if I choose to do so, I must contact Ezra prior to the class I will miss.
- I understand that the Confirmation retreat is required in its entirety.
- I understand that if I miss three or more scheduled classes and/or the Confirmation retreat, I will not complete the confirmation journey this year.
- For sickness, emergencies, etc., please contact Ezra regarding possible exceptions.

## 6. Parents/Guardians

- I will fully support and encourage my child during the Confirmation Journey – in part by having at least one parent/guardian participate in the required training meeting.
- I will not force my child to confirm their faith as only they can make that decision.
- I understand I will be helping set-up & clean-up for the confirmation dessert as well as supply the requested food/beverage that I am asked to bring for the event.

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Student Name (Please Print)

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Student Signature

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Parent Signature

**Participant Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**School**\_\_\_\_\_ **Grade**\_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone**\_\_\_\_\_ **Home Phone**\_\_\_\_\_

**Participant Email**\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name(s)**\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Cell**\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Email**\_\_\_\_\_

**Mentor**

Our priority is to pair you with a mentor who will guide and encourage you through this journey. If there are one or more adults from FPC that you would are interested in having as a Confirmation mentor, please write down their name(s) in the spaces provided below. Please allow us to be the ones to approach the mentors to invite them to participate in this journey with you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name\_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible**

Each student will be given a Bible shortly after signing up for Confirmation that is appropriate for their age and spiritual development (not your grandma's King James edition). If your current Bible is one that you read, and feel is appropriate, you're welcome to use that instead.

Please mark your choice below so we can best support you

\_\_\_\_\_I would like to be provided a new Bible

\_\_\_\_\_I have my own Bible that I plan to use