

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

The goal of Confirmation ministry is to prepare youth to commit themselves to a life of Christian discipleship as active members of the congregation. The Confirmation Program has been created with this goal in mind. The final decision as to whether an individual is confirmed will be based on evidence of personal faith. While merely fulfilling Confirmation Program expectations cannot automatically produce personal faith, willing participants will find the program as a whole to be a valuable means of nurturing such faith.

Required:

- Participation in the Confirmation Retreats
- Completion of Pre-retreat and Post-retreat assignments
- Regular worship attendance
- Twenty sermon notes per year (due the day the sermon is preached)
- Regular Sunday School attendance
- Annual interview with a member of the pastoral staff
- Basic Concepts Test (any time during 6-9th grade)
- (9th grade) Essay: *"What I Believe As A Christian"* (minimum 2 typed pages)
- Service within the congregation (e.g., acolyte, choir, usher, etc.)

Strongly encouraged:

- Middle School (W.I.L.D.) or High School (Coffee House) Youth Program

Sixth-Eighth Grade Retreat Dates:

- Oct. 17-19, 2008 ("I Believe...in Jesus Christ")
- March 20-22, 2009 ("Growing In Grace"), and
- May 15-17, 2009 ("Holy Communion").

The cost for all weekend retreats is \$75.00. Meet at the church at 5:00 p.m.

Ninth Grade Retreat Dates:

- January 25, 2009 "Sharing My Gifts in Ministry" (1:30 through dinner at Pastor Martens' house)
- February 22, 2009 "Marriage & Dating" (1:30 through dinner at Pastor Martens' house)
- March 29, 2009 "Facing Death as a Christian" (1:30 at Einans)
- April 24-26, 2009 "Following Christ" Final Retreat (at Ghormley Meadows)

Packing List:

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| • Two changes of warm clothing | • Sweater or Sweatshirt | • Flashlight |
| • Shoes suitable for hiking or wet weather | • Toiletries | • Bible |
| • Warm jacket | • Towels & washcloth | • Pen or pencil |
| | • Sleeping bag | • [Money for "Sundeck"] |
| | • Pillow | |

Blessing of New Confirmands: October 12, 2008 at both services

Confirmation Banquet: May 29, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Confirmation Sunday: May 31, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.

