

Confirmation Covenant

Confirmation is one of the most important parts of the CUMC Youth Ministry. It is a time to lead our youth toward a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their lives, an understanding of the Christian faith, and an appreciation of the privileges and obligations of baptism and full church membership. During this season, youth will explore the history of the Church, learn what United Methodists believe, study Scripture, practice prayer, and begin and/or enrich their spiritual journeys. As well, they will participate in a large group service project and numerous outside fellowship opportunities, be mentored by a Faith Partner, and meet a lot of new friends!

Because of the significance of Confirmation and all of the program's many elements, the CUMC Youth Ministry will not allow more than **two non-made-up** absences from Confirmation lessons. *Any youth who misses more than two lessons, without making them up the Friday before, will be asked to withdraw from Confirmation until classes are offered again the following year.*

Beginning this year, we will offer a **Friday evening Confirmation class**. This can be taken as a make-up class the Friday before a Sunday morning absence. If your student knows they will miss more than two Sundays, this Friday Confirmation class can also be taken for the full duration of Confirmation – in place of a Sunday morning class. Please be patient with us as we navigate this new opportunity and develop procedures and schedules.

There are many reasons why the youth ministry has established this expectation, all of which point to what is best for the student. We desire for youth to thrive, not only in Confirmation but also, and more importantly, in their relationships with Christ and the Church. In order for youth to thrive, we believe they must first be committed.

Because a relationship with Christ and His Church is a commitment, Confirmation needs to be a commitment. As with anything else, a commitment to Confirmation demands regular time and attention. While this may initially seem daunting to your teenager/family, this commitment is highly beneficial in the long run! In the future, your child will have few, if any, opportunities like Confirmation where he/she can learn the “nuts and bolts” of Christianity, talk about religion and the Church, and freely ask questions. We want our youth to take full advantage of the Confirmation experience, which offers all of this and more. We believe that relationships are an important aspect of Christian faith, and a commitment to Confirmation is also a commitment to the class your student is a part of – their fellow students and teachers.

I/we _____ (PARENT(S) SIGNATURE) understand the Confirmation covenant/attendance policy as well as reasons for its implementation and promise to adhere to it. Should my child have to miss more than two Confirmation lessons without making them up, I understand that the youth ministry will ask my family to withdraw from the program.

I _____ (CONFIRMATION STUDENT SIGNATURE) understand the Confirmation covenant/attendance policy as well as reasons for its implementation and promise to adhere to it. Should I have to miss more than two Confirmation lessons, I understand that the youth ministry will ask me to withdraw from the program.