

August 26, 2011

Dear 9th Grade Confirmands & Families:

Thank you for considering the Confirmation program at First United Methodist Church of Appleton. Our Church Mission Statement is **Making Christian Disciples**. Our Youth Ministries Mission Statement is **Equipping Youth to Authentically Follow Jesus Christ**. We believe that Confirmation is a starting point and not an ending point on a Youth's faith journey. To this end, we offer an opportunity for Youth to make a personal decision to confirm the baptismal vows their parents took for them and become a member of the First United Methodist Church of Appleton.

The Goals of the Confirmation Program at First United Methodist Church of Appleton are as follows:

- * Youth gain an understanding of the History of the Christian Church.
 - * Youth gain an understanding of the History and Beliefs of the United Methodist Church.
 - * Youth develop a critical thought process on questions of faith.
 - * Youth gain an understanding of how faith applies in everyday life.
 - * Youth learn what it takes to be part of a community of believers.

Confirmation is a two year process. All Youth in 8th and 9th grades are encouraged to be part of the process. Confirmation is held during LOGOS. LOGOS is a biblically-based program that seeks to connect Youth with God, caring adults, and each other. LOGOS meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm. We follow the Appleton School District Schedule. A meal is served each week. The cost of the meal is \$4. The 9th grade class will focus on helping Youth gain an understanding of United Methodism, Christian Relationships, and Membership. Classes will begin on October 5 and run through April 18. The final five weeks, April 25-May 23, Youth are encouraged to join the Jesus League, a group of Confirmed Youth that meet during LOGOS. Please refer to the enclosed schedule.

In addition, Confirmands are expected to do the following:

- * Be present in Worship.
- * Share their gifts and talents with the church community. Youth can be Ushers, Greeters, Liturgists, Musicians in the Blended Worship Service, or help in the nursery or Sunday School.
- * Participate in mission opportunities a minimum of 4 times over the two years.
(Mission Blasts – offered once a month (September – May), Summer Mission Trips, etc...).
- * Complete 24 sermon notes over the two years (12 per year).
- * Memorize and Understand the Church's Mission Statement, the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostle's Creed.
- * Complete a Faith Interview with Pastors and Director of Youth Ministries.
- * Attend and Participate in Confirmation Services on Sunday, April 22, 2012.

When we make the commitment to become members of any church, we are promising to be involved in the life of that church by the sharing of our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Being an active member in a church means being part of a community with other believers. Our hope is that you talk and pray about this opportunity with your son or daughter.

Have a blessed day!

Serving Him!

Brian Stahl

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9th Grade Confirmation Schedule 2011-12

- Week 1: October 5 – Welcome Back
- Week 2: October 12 – Our Jewish Heritage
- Week 3: October 19 – Visit Jewish Synagogue
- Week 4: November 2 – Our Common Heritage
- Week 5: November 9 – Visit Catholic Church
- Week 6: November 16 – Mission Blast: Operation Christmas Child
- Week 7: November 30 – Our Protestant Heritage
- Week 8: December 7 – Our United Methodist Heritage
- Week 9: December 14 – United Methodism
- Week 10: December 21 – John Wesley – The Quadrilateral & 3 Simple Rules
- Week 11: January 4 – Holy Communion
- Week 12: January 11 – Baptism & Confirmation
- Week 13: January 18 – United Methodist Social Principles
- Week 14: January 25 – United Methodist Social Principles
- Week 15: February 1 – Sin, Salvation, and Grace
- Week 16: February 8 – Relationships: With Ourselves
- Week 17: February 15 – Relationships: With Friends & Peers
- Week 18: February 22 – Relationships: With the World
- Week 19: February 29 – Relationships: With Death, Dying, and Bereavement
- Week 20: March 7 – Relationships: With Sexuality & Love
- Week 21: March 14 – Our Heritage as a Local Congregation
- Week 22: March 21 – The Meaning of Membership
- Week 23: March 28 – Planning Confirmation Service
- Week 24: April 11 – Planning Confirmation Service
- Week 25: April 18 – Confirmation Service Rehearsal (Youth & Parents)
- Week 26: April 25 – Jesus League
- Week 27: May 2 – Jesus League
- Week 28: May 9 – Jesus League
- Week 29: May 16 – Jesus League
- Week 30: May 23 – LOGOS End of the Year Extravaganza!