



Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church

Monument, CO

Confirmation Overview

Contact:

Contact:

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What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is more than just a rite of passage. This group explores the Christian faith and how we both personalize and take ownership of our beliefs. During confirmation sessions, students will learn about the meaning of the Christian faith; the history and teachings of The United Methodist Church; and an explanation of the baptismal and membership vows they will be professing should they choose to embrace the Christian faith. More than anything, we provide a Confirmation experience because we believe it is important for our students to learn both the content of their faith tradition AND its value in their daily lives. **Confirmation is open to all students in or above 8th grade.**

What's the point?

There are three primary goals for this course:

- To equip students with the knowledge and relationships they need to make an informed decision and lasting commitment to their faith.
- To explore questions of religion, theology, and philosophy in regards to the Christian faith and the Methodist tradition.
- To establish a sense of community where students feel safe and respected, and have fun along the way!

What do we do?

Baptism

- Baptism (Only if not previously baptized)

Relationships

- Tri-Lakes UMC members will be praying for you throughout Confirmation
- Students will experience and learn Tri-Lakes UMC's Discipleship model/practices
- Exit Interview with Sam (15-20 minutes/student. Scheduled in the final weeks of Confirmation)

Worship

- Attend TLUMC Worship Services (Once a month, complete observation sheet each time)
- Special off-site visits (At least 2 of the 4)

Study

- Confirmation Sessions (please communicate absences in advance)
- Confirmation Retreat (conflicts to be arranged with Sam)
- Reflection Assignment (Spiritual Autobiography)

What To Bring

The following materials are expected each week:

- Journal
- Bible (Provided by TLUMC)

Important Dates:

Parent Meeting:

September 26th @ 12:15 – 1:00 PM

Let's get started by getting to know each other and learn about Confirmation, and enjoy a light catered meal after our second session! This is a great way to get plugged in and see what Confirmation is all about. This is a time for students and parents.

Regular Sessions:

September - 19th, 26th
October - 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st
November - 7th

Off-Site Visits:

October 2nd, October 23rd,
November 5th, November 10th

Day Retreat @ TLUMC

October 9th, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

This is a great opportunity for our group to connect on a deeper level. We will also have a BLAST! Registration and more information coming soon!

Confirmation Rehearsal:

Saturday, November 13th @ 3:00 – 4:00 PM

This is a special time for families and students. Following a brief rehearsal in the sanctuary, we will gather for a time to celebrate and share our experience of confirmation. We will also have ice cream and refreshments in the Great Room afterwards!

Confirmation Sunday:

Sunday, November 14th @ 9:30 AM

This is the big one. During the 9:30 worship service on Sunday morning we will bring the confirmands forward to welcome them into our church community.

Where/When do we meet?

Regular sessions meet in **the Lower Level Youth Room from 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM**

Regular Sessions:

Sunday September 19th (11:00 AM – 12:15 PM)

Sunday October 31st (11:00 AM – 12:15 PM)

Sunday September 26th (11:00 AM – 12:15 PM)

Sunday November 7th (11:00 AM – 12:15 PM)

Sunday October 3rd (11:00 AM – 12:15 PM)

Sunday October 10th (11:00 AM – 12:15 PM)

Sunday October 17th (11:00 AM – 12:15 PM)

Sunday October 24th (11:00 AM – 12:15 PM)

Off-Site Visits:

Saturday October 2nd – Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church (Meet there at 4:15 PM. Pickup at 5:45 PM - [11020 Teachout Rd, 80908](#))

Saturday October 23rd – Woodmen Valley Chapel (Meet there at 5:45. Pickup at 7:15 PM - [Monument Campus, 1330 Creekside Dr, 80132](#))

Friday November 5th – Temple Beit Torah – Jewish Temple (7:00 service. More information will be emailed a week before - [522 E Madison St, 80907](#))

Wednesday November 10th – Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church (6:00 service. More information will be emailed a week before. [2215 Paseo Rd, 80907](#))

Why is Confirmation important?

Confirmation is important because we will unpack some of the superficial aspects of Christianity we've experienced in the past and work intentionally on being authentic and genuine during our time together. This experience is all about taking ownership of your faith and confirming it, not feeling forced to conform. This experience invites us to become part of something bigger than ourselves! While we will get into facts and information, this is ultimately about learning our faith story and understanding how it relates to daily life. Confirmation is a truly special opportunity!

Does it *really* matter if I show up?

YES!!! Every year we hear stories of regret from those who couldn't commit to the whole program. Students who fully engage walk away with great new friends, a strong understanding of their faith, and a meaningful and lasting experience. If you're not here, you will be missed and you will miss out. In short, we want to see you! That being said, attendance will still be monitored. Up to 2 excused absences are accepted, but make up work must be completed.

What if I *need* to miss a session?

There are times when you may need to miss a session. We understand that. However, only 2 absences are allowed and must be excused by a parent **prior** to that week's session. If you are sick, please communicate with Sam within a day of the missed session. There will not be grades, but you are expected to engage with the group and do your best. This means contacting Sam to arrange make up work if you miss a session.

What if I can't make Off-Site Visits or the Day Retreat?

You are strongly encouraged to attend all off-site visits and the Retreat. These are HUGE opportunities to make up for any sessions you might miss. Take advantage of this! If you miss an off-site visit, take initiative and go on your own or with friends/family to experience these other locations. As for the Retreat, special arrangements can be made if you've got a conflict. If you know now that you will miss the Retreat altogether, please let Sam know immediately so we can work out a plan.