

The Program

The Confirmation Program is a two-year process designed for seventh- and eighth-graders. The two-year program takes into consideration the maturation happening in the lives of twelve- to fourteen-year-old youth. We believe the process allows the student to be nurtured in the maturation of his or her faith and spiritual development during this time of great change. It also permits a more lasting formation of identity as disciples. As well as, enables relationships to be nurtured among peers in ways that are beneficial.

The classroom portion of the Confirmation Program is taught on Sunday morning during our Christian Education hour. This allows students and their families to grow and connect through fellowship, learning and worship opportunities.

The classroom experience is only part of the Confirmation program. Students are encouraged to regularly participate in class, worship, and youth fellowship which offers opportunities for fellowship and service. Confirmands may also have the occasion to serve as ushers, greeters, musicians or worship leaders for worship services.



Confirmation

A two-year program to introduce middle-school youth to growing in the Christian Faith and Discipleship.

Contact Us



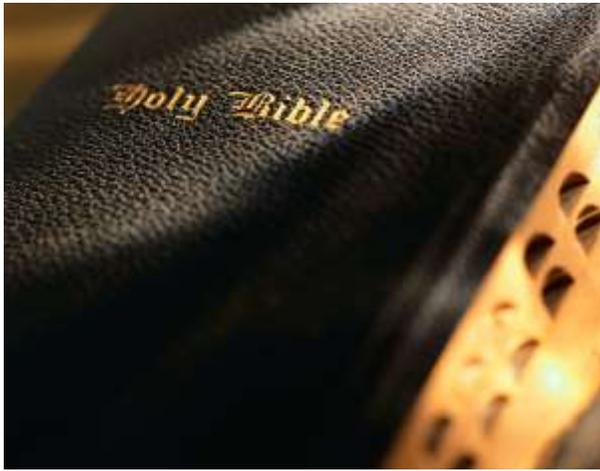
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Chapel Lane
Presbyterian Church



Introduction

The Confirmation Program at Chapel Lane Presbyterian Church allows the students to have the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith and to know what it means to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ. All of us who share in leading the confirmation process are eager to work with the students in this exciting and formative time in their lives. As you will see, the confirmation process involves: learning, serving, fellowship, spiritual growth, relationships, and of course, fun!

Curriculum

The confirmation curriculum is taught over a two-year cycle, using the **Sparkhouse Re:Form** curriculum. Year 1 covers major Biblical characters from the Old and New Testaments. Year 2 looks at foundational theology as well as our Reformed traditions.

Confirmation History

Historically, confirmation is a ministry of the church when persons are instructed in the essentials of the Christian faith and are prepared for a life of discipleship. The purpose of the confirmation process is to lead persons to confess Jesus Christ as Lord and to make a commitment to walk as his disciples. Confirmation is directly related to baptism.

Confirmation was a process, in which a person who had reached the age of accountability was instructed in the faith and called "to confirm" the vows made at his or her baptism. In the Presbyterian tradition, we practice the baptism of infants, and confirmation is understood as the process leading to a person's acceptance of the vows of baptism for herself or himself. Simply put, confirmation is the process by which one accepts the vows of baptism, namely, the confession of Jesus Christ as Lord of his or her life and the commitment to live as Jesus' disciple.

Confirmation, then, involves helping a person to claim the name "Christian." It is a

personal decision in that each of us must make the for ourselves. Yet, it is also a community decision because the decision is made, not in isolation, but in the context of a community of faith. It involves confessing Jesus Christ as Lord and making a commitment to live according to the Good News that Jesus both is and proclaims. Confirmation is a time of formation when young people are instructed in the faith, exposed to life in a community, and experience what it means to live as a disciple. As a participant in the Confirmation Program you are being asked to consciously embrace the Christian faith and the life of discipleship as your own.



Assumptions

A number of assumptions underlie our Confirmation Program. First, we assume that confirmation must be focused on the formation of Christian disciples. "Making disciples" is the mission of the church. Confirmation is how that mission is realized among middle-school students. Second, we assume that confirmation is a critically important ministry of the church to and with our youth. Third, we assume confirmation is a comprehensive experience, involving the whole person. Because persons learn in a variety of ways, the Confirmation Program includes cognitive, relational, experiential and spiritual aspects. Fourth, we assume confirmation must be an integrated experience, including service to the church, fellowship and the Youth program.

Conclusion

We believe that our middle-school students are capable of learning that is challenging, intentional and integrative. One only has to consider the curriculum in math and science they encounter in school. To "dumb down" their instruction in the faith would be a disservice to them and to the mission that God in Christ has given the church. The intended outcome of the Confirmation Program is a youth who is knowledgeable about his or her faith, committed to Jesus Christ as Lord and intentional about living a life of Christian discipleship. By the grace of God in Christ and the cooperative efforts of students, parents, mentors and staff, we trust this outcome will be realized.

