

AM I READY TO BE CONFIRMED?

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

It is the time when a baptized Christian publicly "confirms" their intention to live the vows of their baptismal and membership covenant of the UM Church.

BAPTISMAL VOWS



MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

I VOW...

Familiarize yourself with the covenant and vows you will be making as a confirmand.

READINESS

WHEN AM I READY?



There is no set time or age, but rather the readiness and capacity to live with integrity the vows that you are making.



When you read over the vows, do you understand what the words mean? Do you understand what they are declaring?



Are you ready to let the whole of your life (how you live) reflect a commitment to the vows you are making? Can you follow through with what you are saying?



...TO RENOUNCE

the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of the world, and repent of my sin;



...TO ACCEPT

the freedom and power God gives me to resist evil, injustice, and oppression;



...TO CONFESS

Jesus Christ as Savior, put my whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as my Lord;



...TO REMAIN

a faithful member of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representative in the world;



...TO BE LOYAL

to Christ through The United Methodist Church and do all in my power to strengthen its ministries;



...TO FAITHFULLY PARTICIPATE

in its ministries by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness;



...TO RECEIVE AND PROFESS

the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

HOW CAN I PREPARE?



LEARNING & CONNECTING

What steps can you
be doing to help
ready yourself for
being confirmed?

YOU CAN...



FAITH FOUNDATIONS

Grow in your understanding of foundational faith concepts. Wonderful Wednesday's student small group centers around conversations about topics like grace, theology, creeds, redemption, salvation, etc.



SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Understand what gifts and talents you have by taking a spiritual gifts inventory to and consider ways you can invest in the life of a church. Will be given during WW but can contact Lisa to get an assessment.



COMMUNITY

Connect and grow with others. Faith is not meant to be lived in a bubble, but with the experience and encouragement of others., Participate with regularity in activities with your peers like , retreats, camps, etc.



METHODISM

Learn about what it means to be a part of a United Methodist Church. Participate in a confirmation class specifically aimed at providing clarity about what it means to be Methodist.

PERSONAL DEVOTION

Incorporate space and time to have personal reflection, prayer, and Bible reading in your day. Lisa has a variety of devotional books that can help you in developing this habit.



WORSHIP

Build a consistent habit of worship in your life. Attend with regularity Sunday morning worship as well as developing areas of worship in your daily life.



SERVICE

Develop a heart and habit of service. Find opportunities to participate in ministry and missions experiences. Consider involvement in mission trips, serving with Backyard Missions, or local agencies like Mission Central.



ONE-ON-ONE

When you've decided you're ready to be confirmed, reach out to Lisa or Pastor Denny to schedule a pre-confirmation meeting and a time to discuss the vows you will be making.



Contact Lisa if you would like more clarity and support in your process towards being confirmed

**AND JESUS SAID,
"FOLLOW ME."**

Hi!

I hope the "Am I Ready to Be Confirmed" sheet will help provide some clarity on the confirmation process. The process has looked different over the years (year long Sunday school classes, retreats, evening sessions, etc). The process has always been shaped around the population of confirmands at the time but always with the same objective: to help students come to a place of readiness for making strong their baptismal vows.

One element I still need to offer for this year is a class about Methodism. My hope and plan is to aim to have one on the calendar each fall and spring. I would like to have a 1 1/2 to 2 hour window for this session. Possible dates this spring could be:

Thursday Evening April 27

Friday Evening April 28

Saturday Morning April 29

Sunday Afternoon April 30

Wednesday Evening May 10

Let me know (by ranking) which days would work or if you have another suggestion of a date.

Pentacost (the day in the church calendar most often associated with confirmation) falls on May 28th this year. If you intend to be confirmed, will you be around for this date?

Please let me know if you have other questions about the process and please communicate with me about your intentions for confirmation this May.

-Lisa

(The booklet of Ministry and Missions at First Church is to help you as you consider your continuing involvement in the life of First Church and how and where your spiritual gifts might be best used).