

October 24, 2011

TO: Parents of Eighth-Graders at St. Andrews

FROM: Nancy Davis

RE: Confirmation 2012

Dear Friends:

This is a special year for your family – your eighth-grader is eligible for full church membership at St. Andrews. To prepare for this, your son/daughter will need to take confirmation instruction so that he/she can understand more fully what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ and a member of this faith community.

Confirmation Class will meet on Sunday afternoons from 4:00-5:00 beginning on January 8 and culminating in Confirmation Weekend, April 28-29, 2012. Bruce and I will be teaching the class, along with Mandy Barkhaus and Ben Wedeking, plus laypersons from the church. As a new twist this year, we are asking each student to pick an adult to serve as their confirmation mentor. There is more information about this in the letter to your son/daughter which is included in this mailing. The mentor would be an adult (18 years and older) who would attend the classes, do all assigned homework, and participate in the Confirmation Weekend services. This could be a parent, a sibling, a grandparent, uncle or aunt, cousin, godparent, close family friend, teacher, anyone who would be willing to do this and who your child would choose to accompany them on their faith journey. The mentor does not have to be United Methodist, but it would be helpful if this person were someone who is willing to learn about his/her faith and to work with your son/daughter in this process. Your eighth-grader will need to ask this person to do this, certainly with your help if you wish.

There is a registration form included in this mailing and you can also go onto the St. Andrews website and register there. When I receive the information about the person who has agreed to be your child's mentor I will write a letter to that person and bring them up to date on this process.

I have also included a list of the expectation for the students and mentors of the class. I want to stress that attendance in class must be of the highest priority so your son/daughter can receive the full benefit of this training.

I am looking forward to working with your eighth-grader in confirmation 2012.

October 24, 2011

TO: Eight-Graders at St. Andrews

FROM: Nancy Davis

RE: Confirmation Class 2012

Hello Future Member of St. Andrews:

It is time to start thinking about your confirmation training to prepare you to take full membership vows at St. Andrews. This is a really special time for your family and the entire church family and Confirmation Weekend will be a big celebration for all of us.

The class will meet on Sunday evenings from 4:00-5:00 starting on January 8, 2012. Confirmation Weekend is April 28-29, 2012. Bruce and I will teach the class, along with Mandy and Ben and selected persons from the St. Andrews family.

This year I am asking each of you to choose someone to share the confirmation experience with you, an adult mentor. This person should be 18 years old or older and should be someone who is willing to come to class with you and do all the homework just like you. This person could be a parent, grandparent, uncle or aunt, cousin, sibling, godparent, family friend, teacher, coach – really anyone you would like to have with you as we do our study. You need to take responsibility for asking this person to do this; your parents can help you with this but the invitation needs to come directly from you. After you have chosen that person and they have agreed to do this I will send them a letter telling them more about this process.

I have enclosed with this letter a letter for your parents and a list of the expectations of the class. You also have a registration form that you can either fill out and return to me or, if you want to, you can register online at the St. Andrews UMC website. Please get this done as quickly as you can.

I know your life is busy but it is important that you make confirmation class a priority in your life. This is one of the best ways I know to help you develop a closer relationship with God and help lead you to a better understanding of God's will for your life.

I am looking forward to having you as a student in Confirmation 2012!

## SCHEDULE FOR CONFIRMATION 2012

JANUARY 8 – INTRODUCTION TO JOURNALING, ORGANIZATION OF GROUP, DISCUSSION OF EXPECTATIONS, MEETING WITH MENTORS (#1,2,3 IN BOOK)

JANUARY 15 – CREATION (#4 IN BOOK)

JANUARY 22 – SIN AND REDEMPTION (#5-6 IN BOOK)

JANUARY 29 – THE HOLY SPIRIT (#7 IN BOOK)

FEBRUARY 5 – NO CLASS- SUPER BOWL

FEBRUARY 12 – THE CHURCH (#8 IN BOOK)

FEBRUARY 19 – DISCIPLESHIP (# 9-10 IN BOOK)

FEBRUARY 26 – SALVATION (#11 IN BOOK)

MARCH 4 – JOHN WESLEY AND UMC HISTORY (#12 IN BOOK)

MARCH 11 – WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS (#13-14 IN BOOK)

MARCH 18 – HOLINESS AND THE HOLY LIFE (#15 IN BOOK)

MARCH 25 – REJECTING EVIL AND ACCEPTING FREEDOM (#16-17 IN BOOK)

APRIL 1 – CONFESSION (#18-19 IN BOOK)

APRIL 8 – EASTER – NO CLASS

APRIL 15 – PRAYER (#20 IN BOOK)

APRIL 22 – GOING FORTH (#21, 22, 23 IN BOOK)

APRIL 28-29 – CONFIRMATION WEEKEND

## EXPECTATIONS FOR CONFIRMATION CLASS 2012

1. REGULAR ATTENDANCE IN CLASS SESSIONS (SUNDAYS 4:00-5:00)
2. REGULAR ATTENDANCE IN WORSHIP
3. REGULAR ATTENDANCE IN YOUTH ACTIVITIES
4. PARTICIPATION IN TWO MISSION-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES
5. ATTENDANCE AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL SERVICES:
  - A. ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 22, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.
  - B. MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 5, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.
  - C. GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 6, 2012 AT 12:00 NOON

You will also be required to write a paragraph about the service you attended, what occurred in the service, and what connection this service has to the life of a Christian.
6. WRITING A CREED. A lot of this will be done during class time with the guidance of instructors. Those who wish may read their creed on Confirmation Day during the worship service.
7. COMPLETION OF ALL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS
8. READING THE GOSPEL OF LUKE- this will be done over the course of the class period
9. EACH STUDENT AND HIS/HER PARENTS WILL MEET WITH THE CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTORS PRIOR TO CONFIRMATION DAY TO DISCUSS ANY QUESTIONS THAT MIGHT ARISE ABOUT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND TO TALK WITH THE STUDENT ABOUT HIS/HER PLAN FOR PERSONAL SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AND DISCIPLESHIP AFTER BECOMING FULL CHURCH MEMBERS.

ST. ANDREWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2012 CONFIRMATION CLASS REGISTRATION AND COVENANT

1. FULL NAME (NAME THAT WILL APPEAR ON YOUR CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATE)  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. NAME YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CALLED IN CLASS \_\_\_\_\_
3. FULL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
4. SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_
5. YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
6. YOUR PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_
7. PARENTS NAMES \_\_\_\_\_
8. PARENTS E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_
9. PARENTS PHONE NUMBERS \_\_\_\_\_
10. I HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED \_\_\_YES \_\_\_NO
11. THE PERSON I HAVE CHOSEN AS MY MENTOR IS \_\_\_\_\_
12. MY RELATIONSHIP TO THAT PERSON \_\_\_\_\_
13. THAT PERSON'S E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
14. THAT PERSON'S PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_ promise, as part of the 2012 Confirmation Class that I will be a committed participant in the class. I will make this a top priority in my life during this time. I will complete my assignments, be attentive in class, respect others in the class by not speaking while they are talking, and take this decision seriously as a way to help me grow in my faith,

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(STUDENT SIGNATURE)