

GOALS

By the end of Confirmation Ministry, youths will

1. Confess Jesus Christ as Lord (Romans 10:9) and give an expression to this faith;
2. Have experienced and learned about God's unconditional love with Guides, parents and each other;
3. Have significant relationships with the youths and adults within their small group;
4. Have studied the Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer, Apostles' Creed, and Sacraments, along with the explanations of these items in Martin Luther's Small Catechism.
5. Have begun to understand how God has S.H.A.P.E.d them for Christian ministry, specifically at St. John;
6. Attend worship regularly;
7. Have served regularly in some capacity related to worship;
8. Attend Sunday School regularly.

By the end of Confirmation Ministry, parents of confirmation students will

1. Have learned how to be better parents to their adolescent;
2. Have significant relationships with other parents;
3. Have attended worship regularly with their adolescent.

Confirmation Blessing

I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources [God] will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit. And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Ephesians 3:16-19



Confirmation Ministry

6004 Waterloo Road
Columbia, MD 21045

410/799-8888

www.stjohnmd.org

PURPOSE

The purpose of the St. John Confirmation Ministry is to engage the adolescent in a season of study, community building and reflection designed to help each youth embrace new life in Jesus Christ and make public affirmation of his or her baptism.

CONTENT

On a three-year cycle, students will study: the Apostles' Creed and the Ten Commandments; the Lord's Prayer, Baptism and the Lord's Supper; and the Bible.

Additionally, through journaling and conversation, students will reflect, on the teachings of the Christian faith and their application to daily living. Also, students will attend the annual **retreat**.

This retreat is a highlight of the year for students. On the Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend in January, students and guides enjoy worship with the High School Band, skits by the High School Drama Team, large group teaching and small group times, along with free time, great food and lots of fun. On a three-year cycle, students explore "Friendship," "Boosting Self-Esteem," and "Media." When available (*usually as of the October*

preceding the retreat), retreat packets are accessible here.

The ninth graders conclude their confirmation journey by creating a personal **faith project** that is presented at the Confirmation Banquet. The Rite of Confirmation is Pentecost Sunday.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

7:00-7:30 B.A.S.H.

Students gather in large group each Wednesday night at the Big Awesome Spiritual Happening. Using various sensory aids, Pastor Mike addresses the night's topic. Fun learning games and skits are presented by the High School BASH drama team. The High School BASH Band provides music.

7:30-8:30 Small Group Time

Students gather with assigned small groups of 4-6 students and two adults who build caring communities through checking in with each other, discussing the session topic, reviewing the verse and terms of the week, discussing the worship and sermon notes, journaling, and previewing or reviewing servant and fellowship events.

PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

For Students

- Regular attendance at Wednesday Confirmation gatherings
- Small Group Fellowship Events—2 per year
- Small Group Servant Events—2 per year
- Worship-related Service (acolytes, altar guild, greeters, ushers, readers, music, etc.)
- Regular Sunday School & worship attendance
- Participation in Youth Ministry events

For Parents

- Involvement & assistance (Parent Talk, retreat, confirmation reception, etc.)
- Ongoing two-way communication with Guides and Pastors



Pastor Mike McQuaid 410/799-8888
Pastor of Youth & Family Ministry
Mike@stjohnmd.org