

**PURPOSE FOR CONFIRMATION AT
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MIDLAND, MICHIGAN**

1. Provide a place for young people to hear others share their faith and how it affects their daily lives.
2. Offer an opportunity to grow in one's understanding of the Bible.
3. Clarify ways in which Christian faith affects daily life, teaching the ability to apply Christian principles to their everyday problems and challenges.
4. Provide a clear understanding of what it means to be United Methodists. (Teach UM beliefs, stands on social issues, UM history, and offer opportunity for understanding other denominations).
5. Provide clear understanding of what it means to be a Christian.
6. Include experiences for service as a primary element of Christian life.
7. Invite a commitment to Christ.
8. Nurture personal faith.
9. Build Christian community.
(Help teens make friends in the congregation and promote a good feeling about the church. We want youth to sincerely say: "Church is cool!")
10. Emphasize the congregation's need for youth by inviting and encouraging their involvement during and beyond Confirmation.
11. Emphasize that the invitation to confirm their faith is the student's choice, and that it is a commitment to be taken seriously.
12. Provide a clear understanding of what the commitment of confirming one's faith means.
13. Provide a forum for answering theological questions.

STUDENT CONFIRMATION COVENANT

Confirmation is a time to have fun, to learn, to grow, to explore the Christian faith, and to get to know one another. I understand that entering the Confirmation process is a serious commitment. My parent(s) and I have read "The Purposes for Confirmation at First United Methodist Church" and the "The Confirmation Process" and we agree to work together to fulfill them.

I will attend all sessions to the best of my ability. If I am unable to attend a session, I will contact the teacher to receive a copy of the make-up session and become familiar with the material I missed. I also understand that I have a choice at the end of this process: If I feel ready, I can be confirmed in the Christian faith and become a member of the church. If I do not feel ready, I can wait until I am ready.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

**Please return this copy to the church office
along with your registration form.**

Confirmation Registration 2011-2012 For 7th & 8th Grade Students

Student's full name _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)
(No nicknames please)

Male Female _____ Grade

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parents Email address: _____

Students Email address: _____

Phone _____ Birthdate _____

Parents' Name(s) _____

Have you been baptized? _____ If yes, where and when:
 Location _____ Date (important) _____

Name of school _____

Are there any special needs we should be aware of?

.....
"Friends-In-Faith": Each student is asked to find an adult member of the congregation (NOT a relative) who is willing to serve as his/her sponsor. In that relationship, they meet at least 5 times to complete 10 units in the Mentorship Booklet, share what being a Christian means to them, and especially pray together.

Friend-in-Faith's name _____

The Confirmation Process

- ✚ Confirmation Parent's Meeting and Acolyte training on Thursday, September 8 at 7:15 pm in the Youth Center. Acolyte training will be held in the Sanctuary following the parent meeting.
- ✚ Confirmand with Friend-in-Faith Meeting and picture taking on Sunday, September 25 in Middle Ground between services.
- ✚ Sign and hand in the "Confirmation Covenant" which is the white sheet enclosed in packet.
- ✚ Attend the Confirmation Fall Retreat and be active in UMYF and/or LOGOS for at least three months.
- ✚ Attend Confirmation Class regularly.
- ✚ Give 5 units of service to the church and the 5 units of service to the community. Group projects will be made available. Choirs and LOGOS Worship skills class count as 5 units if youth is actively involved.
- ✚ Attend Sex, God, and Me with one of your parents. More information will be given out later on this class.
- ✚ Participate in mentoring sessions with your "Friend-in-Faith."
- ✚ Attend at least 2 worship services per month and fill out at least 6 written reflections on worship services in your Confirmation notebook.
- ✚ Acolyte during morning worship services. The number of times you acolyte will depend on the number of students in the class.
- ✚ Choose and attend at least one FUMC committee or board meeting to learn about the working of the church and keep a report in your Confirmation notebook.
- ✚ Interview with the Confirmation pastor. Please bring a record of requirements completed to date, and an essay written on the theme: "What it means to be a Christian" OR an expression of your faith in art-form or symbolism.

Class Schedule
 Beginning September 22, 2011
 Thursday Evenings from 7:15-8:15 p.m.
 in Middle Ground

TOTAL FEES: \$125.00

This is the only cost to parents.

(Scholarship money is available upon request.)

Please call Becky at the church office (835-6797 ext. 14)
if you have any questions.

**Please send payment with your registration by August 26.
Registration Fee after August 26 is \$150.00.**

For your information . . . costs for the Confirmation program:

Retreat	\$100.00
Robe	\$22.25
Photo	\$5.00
Gift Bible	\$18.00
Class Booklets	\$15.00
Reception	\$25.00
Resources	\$15.00
Certificate	\$5.00
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Total	\$205.25

**Costs are for information purposes only:
PLEASE PAY ONLY THE TOTAL FEES
LISTED AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE!**

Confirmation Sunday: April 29, 2012

Confirmation Registration

for

**7th & 8th Grade Students
2011-2012**



**Due at the church office by:
August 26, 2011**

Expectations for Parent

PARENT CONFIRMATION COVENANT

I will support, encourage, and guide my son or daughter during the Confirmation process. As a visible sign of my support, I will work toward structuring family schedules so Confirmation events have the highest priority. I will encourage discussions about Christian faith and the life of the church. I also understand that by participating in this process, my son or daughter is not forced to be publicly confirmed. It is rather an open invitation he/she may choose at the end of the process.

Name of Confirmand: _____

Signature of Parent: _____

I will assist in the Confirmation class by serving as:

(Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Drivers for events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robes Coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> Acolyte Coordinator |
| ♦ Feb: Measure youth for robes | ♦ Lead training for youth
(info provided for you) |
| ♦ Apr: Hand out robes | ♦ Set up training schedule and
hand out to youth |
| ♦ May: Pack & return robes | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retreat Chaperone | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone calling - making calls
when needed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photographer for Rehearsal
Dinner Night | |

All teachers and overnight chaperones, including retreat chaperones, must have a completed form on file and must be interviewed by clergy or staff per the church's Protection Policy for Children and Youth.

If you do not have a form on file, please contact the church office and schedule an interview with Rev. Cathy Christman or Becky Jenkins.

PARENTAL PERMISSION for FRIEND-IN-FAITH

As parent of _____ I give my permission for my son/daughter to participate in the Friend-in-Faith program under the sponsorship of _____ whom we, the parents, have approved.
person's name

I understand it may involve my son/daughter being alone with the sponsor for the necessary meetings, and I feel comfortable allowing my son/daughter to be alone with the sponsor named above.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
parent(s) signatures