

Calendar of Classes

DATE	TOPIC
11/21	Introduction with Parents
11/28	No Class —Thanksgiving Day
12/5	No Class —Communion
12/12	Beginning the Journey (1)
12/19	Who Is A Christian (2)
12/26	No Class —Christmas
1/2	No Class —New Years
1/9	Our Heritage (3)
1/16	United Methodists Talk Funny (4)
1/23	Sacraments (5)
1/30	Social Principles (6)
<u>2/6</u>	<u>Lunch with Mentors (7)</u>
2/13	Video: "The Priveledged Planet" (8)
2/20	A People of Faith (9)
2/27	A People of the Book 1 (10)
<u>3/6</u>	<u>Lunch with Mentors</u>
3/13	People of the Book 2 (11)
3/19	Trip—Messianic Temple
3/27	Who Is God? (12)
4/3	No Class—Communion
4/10	Prayer (13)
4/17	Image of God (14)
4/24	No Class—Easter (15)
<u>5/1</u>	<u>Lunch with Mentors</u>
5/8	Who Is Jesus? (16)
5/15	What Is Salvation? (17)
5/22	Who Is the Holy Spirit? (18)
5/29	<u>Trip—Kings Pantry (19)</u>
6/5	No Class—Communion
6/12	<u>PENTECOST—CONFIRMATION SERVICE</u>

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MONROE

Confirmation 2010—2011
Class Schedule



**Claiming Christ Is
Claiming Life!**

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is the traditional way in which a believer baptized in youth comes to the knowledge of and relationship with their Christian faith so that he or she may accept for himself or herself Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Usually a Christian mentor will facilitate this encounter, which includes many diverse experiences of both what the traditional Christian heritage is and is not. We are going to try to incorporate mentors who could be in a faith relationship with this confirmation class.

Who can participate?

Any youth or adult who is in seventh grade or over may participate in confirmation. Because of the individual nature of confirmation, a variety of ages is not an issue.

What is expected?

We do not expect any kind of memory testing or written examination. We would very much appreciate an open dialogue from each of the confirmands. Conversation and interaction are the two keys for anyone to connect fully to what church is all about. The facilitators of the class will strive to make each session a safe place for confirmands to speak openly about their faith and share unique ideas concerning their beliefs.

We would also like to encourage consistent participation in learning opportunities. The organizers have given a lot of thought to the calendar, providing ample time for holidays and breaks in the learning process, but we would like to have confirmands attend as many sessions as possible, including times away from the church and classroom environment. Having

said this, we know that life is busy and perfect attendance is almost impossible. Choosing Christ is a process born of personal conviction, which is independent of intellectual prowess, and attendance checkmarks, but confirmation allows individuals to make informed decisions about their faith and the community that God has called to be the body of Christ on earth.

How long is confirmation?

The whole course of study will take 21 sessions. Most if not all of the sessions will be held before church. We will need to ask that the confirmands be in the Church Parlor and ready to go at 9:00 AM so that the class can wrap up no later than 9:45 AM. There will be sessions held off premises. The full tentative calendar is included later on in this pamphlet.

Who will be leading the sessions?

The Pastor and one other Church member will lead the sessions. When we are off premises, we will ask that as many parents and/or mentors as possible join the group for even closer supervision.

What does confirmation cost?

There is no cost associated with the confirmation process. Speaking to the very heart of the "great commission" (Matthew 28:19), it is the church's privilege to be able to mentor those seeking entry to Christian faith. When we are off site, we might ask that parents provide their child(ren) with a bag lunch.

What materials will be necessary?

It would be a good idea to have a Bible at the ready, especially early in the process, for we will be looking at some passages when we deal with the Old and New Testaments, for the majority of the other sessions materials will be provided for the confirmands.

Is there any homework?

In an effort not to add to the stress level of already over programmed and heavily home worked students, there will be little or no homework involved in this process. All work will be done in the classroom, or on excursions.

When will the youth be confirmed?

The traditional date for confirmation in the Christian church is the day of Pentecost. On June 12, 2011, our youth will have a special service in which the Pastor will confirm them, and those who have not already joined the church will do so as new members.

Confirmation- The end of the Beginning!

Some youth feel that their life in Christian education and faithful attendance in worship ends with confirmation. This makes the confirmation process the beginning of the end for such students. Confirmation is fundamentally the fruition of the baptismal promise made between the parents and the church on behalf of the confirmand at his or her baptism: Confirmation completes and empowers our baptism through the public profession that we make when we are confirmed. In this way confirmation is the end to the beginning of a life in faith. Unlike baptism, confirmation can be done multiple times.