

## 2024-2025 Unity Confirmation Program Covenant

**New This Year! We are offering a Sunday night Class option from 6:00 - 7:30 PM at the COL campus based on hearing from so many of our teens that they didn't want to miss Confirmation because of a team they are apart of!** We will make both Sundays and Wednesdays an option, so long as we have enough numbers signed up for each night. Otherwise, we may have to ask anyone who could make the other night work to switch to that night. We also are asking that you commit to a trimester at a time since we will create small groups for each night and want to make sure we have supplies and that small group leaders know who will be in their group. We may allow a one time switch if on some week, you'd have to miss a week, but you could attend the other night. Just let your Lead Teacher know so they are aware.

We chose the Sunday time as that is the same time frame *as when our Sr. High youth group meets most weeks. We hope this also helps make it easier for families who have student in each age group. Please help us by encouraging them to make it a regular part of their week!* (Consistent participation is what leads to deeper connections and a strong program creating a lot of memories!)

**Classes on Wednesdays will continue mostly from 6:15-7:45 PM at the COL Campus.** We didn't change the times immediately to match Sunday nights, but Nov. 20 is a special class/worship time just on Wednesday for everyone that week. When Lent comes, we'll talk more about the schedule at the Winter Orientation in January.

**Class is divided into three trimesters.** Year One kids receive a ring binder notebook on the first night of class. (Year 2 students: you already have one!) **Bring your Bible Binder and Pencil each week.** Year 1 students will want to have a New Revised Standard Version Study Bible (\$20, take one tonight, pay tonight or at the first class...or use one from an older sibling).

**The class uses a Large Group-Small Group format.** Most nights involve two large group sessions with a lead teacher (Pastor Sherrie and Nicole Krause for the first trimester) and two small group sessions led by an adult/parent small group leader. Large group time will be mostly instructional. Small groups will include discussions, group building, and games. Students are assigned to a small group, which stays the same throughout the trimester and then changes.

**Families are asked to help lead a small group 2 times between now and Christmas.** Significant, non-parent adults are so important to our confirmation students. Every parent, please be involved! 8 adults are needed every week!. Your participation is what makes this program work! Small group leader materials will be e-mailed to you prior to the class you facilitate. **Remember, you do not need to be a teacher or have deep theological knowledge to do this. You do need an interest in and a commitment to young people the age of your own child.** We don't put parents in a small group with their child. We really value our adults being a significant person in the lives of all our kids and we really value that our kids get to experience adults beyond their parents.



Commitment to the group is very important. Parents or students please let your Lead Teacher know when you will be gone, an email/text is fine.

Students are expected to attend worship on a regular basis and let us know if you'd like to be removed as an acolyte and trained to do visuals or sound instead!

What is C-mail? C-mail is the main communication tool between students and the program leaders. Students share something about their week and their impressions of worship. **A total of 4 C-mails are due each trimester.** To earn credit, C-mail must be filled out to the satisfaction of the lead teacher. There are 4 different c-mail forms – there are paper copies available in the narthex. You can also submit on-line. **And NEW this year**, if it's easier for students to type their answers using their phones in worship, that's okay with us, so long as they actually take time to say more than a sentence or two!

**Each student will be sent their own Google doc that has their name on it.** The forms will be already included for them to fill out the answers. If they decide to fill a paper version out instead, their lead teacher will scan it into their google doc to help them keep track of how many they have done.

Servant opportunities. Each student is expected to serve others as a part of their confirmation experience. You should do two servant events this fall, one of which should be one of the three week Sunday Fusion events. Programs and events that serve others and are not planned by Unity work can work for your second event, just be sure to tell us about them (volunteering at Humane Society, etc.) **Students are asked to report their service work on their c-mail forms as they do them. We will also take attendance for the events we organize.**

Evaluating the Trimester. Faith is more subjective than objective. It is best learned by personal experience, serving others, and being part of a community. Still, knowledge of the Bible, church history, and the basis for our beliefs is important to a strong faith. Each lead teacher has his/her own style of evaluation (aka tests ) We want to grow and we want to learn.

Summers. Getting away is a perfect time to grow in our faith and as a group. Confirmation Camp is encouraged after Year One. The East Coast Road Trip will follow Year Two. Dates are on the Program Summary sheet. More info in January.

Phones can travel with you but please don't use them unless we ask you to. (Bonus Questions)

Contact us if you have any questions or to pass on any important information about your child!  
(See back)

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