

## 2025-2026 Unity Confirmation Program Covenant

**New This Year!** We have made the difficult decision to have classes on Sunday nights for the first two trimesters and on Wednesday when we begin the third trimester.

We chose the Sunday time as that is the same time frame *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!)

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** Binder Pencil and Bible 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 Justin, Pastor Sherrie, and Michelle Aprahamian) 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! 5 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 again 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. 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.**

**New Name - Same Great Learning Experiences: SALT (Serving and Learning Together)**

In addition to Serving, we also want your student to be introduced to some of our Servant Partners and our Interfaith connections in order to help them learn more about the road that others have to walk and also the beliefs and rituals of other faith communities. There are typically 2 Sunday mornings where they learn more about the partner and then there is a time to visit. (If possible on Sunday mornings, that would be what we would do, but visits to our friends at the Jewish synagogue in Waukesha or the Islamic mosque in Brookfield would be on a Friday evening.)

**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 \_\_\_\_\_) We want to grow and we want to learn.

**NEW this year! Confirmation Mentors.** We are looking to create three opportunities for our students to get to know other adults from our congregation and share their knowledge with them. We have witnessed the impact of fostering relationships like this. IF there are adults that you have been struck by in terms of how they reach out to our teens or who you think of as wonderful examples of faith, be sure to pass their names on so we can ask them to consider this important opportunity!

**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.**

**Contact us if you have any questions or to pass on any important information about your child!**

Justin Kierzek - Lead Teacher for 1st trimester, (414) 275-1947, [justin@unitybrookfield.org](mailto:justin@unitybrookfield.org),  
Sherrie Lorbeck - Lead Teacher for 2nd trimester, (414) 477-7762, [sherrie@unitybrookfield.org](mailto:sherrie@unitybrookfield.org),  
Michelle Aprahamian - Lead Teacher for 3rd trimester, (414) 732-8615, [michelle@unitybrookfield.org](mailto:michelle@unitybrookfield.org)  
Nicole Krause - Confirmation Program Support, (262) 227-2271, [nicole@unitybrookfield.org](mailto:nicole@unitybrookfield.org),