Confirmation Program Expectations

<u>Classes meet on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:45 PM.</u> This year class is divided into three 9-week 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, a pencil or pen and your Study Bible each week.* Year 1 students will want to have a NRSV (New Revised Standard Version) Study Bible (\$20).

<u>The class uses a Large Group-Small Group format.</u> Most nights will involve two large group sessions with a lead teacher (Jo Ann, John, Sherrie) 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.

<u>Families are asked to help lead a small group 1-2 times per trimester.</u> Dads and moms...please be involved! Nine adults (4 for 1st year, 5 for 2nd year) are needed each night. Your participation is what makes this program work! Small group leader materials will be e-mailed to you prior to the class you facilitate. <u>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.</u> We usually don't put parents in a small group with their child.

<u>Commitment to the group is very important. Parents</u>, please let your <u>LEAD TEACHER</u> know when you will be gone, a quick email/text is fine. If you miss a class YOU contact the lead teacher by email to get any make up material you missed.

Students are expected to attend worship on a regular basis.

<u>What is C-mail?</u> C-mail is the main communication tool between students and the lead teacher. Students share something about their week and their impressions of worship. The lead teacher then writes back. A total of 4 C-mail 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 – use different ones for variety! They are available to be filled out on-line through each church's web site.

<u>Servant opportunities.</u> Each student is expected to serve others as a part of their confirmation experience. <u>The minimum expectation is 2 forms of service in the Fall and 2 forms in the Spring.</u> In both Fall and Spring, at least one servant activity should be in the community. We encourage serving more than the minimum.

Evaluating the Quarter. Evaluating learning about the faith is more subjective than objective. It is best learned by personal experience and the example of others. Still, understanding the history of God's people and the basis for our beliefs is important to a strong faith. Each lead teacher has his/her own style of evaluation. Remember, the goal is to grow in faith, *not* to earn a grade.

<u>Summers.</u> 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.

<u>Confirmation is an Electronics Free Zone Unless We Ask You to Look Something Up.</u> Put it away and BE present with the people you're with!

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