

## Confirmation Information

Confirmation is a unique expression of our continuing journey of faith. It is a time for youth to question their faith, learn about church and United Methodist history, learn more about some tools and disciplines that can help them in their faith journey, form a relationship with a mentor who can help them sort through some of their questions, make some decisions about their relationship with Jesus and whether to join the church. The youth may or may not choose to join Towson United Methodist Church at the end of their confirmation experience. The word “confirmation” comes from the public declaration which a youth makes to “confirm” the vows made on the youth’s behalf at his/her baptism. Because the vows which the youth will make if they join the church are so serious, we do not pressure the youth in their decision. We prefer the youth to take these vows as seriously as they are meant to be taken. If a youth does not feel ready to be this serious, they should wait and ask more questions and do more searching in their faith journey.

The primary material used in Confirmation is Credo, a confirmation curriculum published by Cokesbury. Additional materials may be used to supplement the curriculum. Each student is given a binder with useful information.

Margery Schammel has responsibility for the entire Confirmation experience and will be your first contact for questions and permission forms, etc. There will be a team of teachers rotating every week and working with Margery.

We will be taking field trips to Lovely Lane UMC and Old Otterbein UMC. We will, of course, need chaperones and drivers!!

Our traditional Confirmation Retreat will be Sat.- Sun., November 19-20, 2011. Please put these dates on your calendar now! We will stay at West River Retreat Center, just south of Annapolis on the West River. This Retreat is mandatory for all confirmands; please make your best effort to attend. We will need chaperones who can stay at West River with us, and possibly drivers for transport, as well.

Confirmation is included in our church’s Safe Sanctuaries policy. All adults working in the Confirmation program are Safe Sanctuaries

approved. For more information on the Safe Sanctuaries policy, please click on Safe Sanctuaries on the left menu of the main web page.

Mentors are a large part of Confirmation. Please talk first with Margery Schammel about your choice of mentor. Mentors are adult members of Towson United Methodist Church who have a calling to help our youth in their faith journeys. They are, first and foremost, the youth's friend. They are also a help in homework assignments, some of which are specifically designed to be completed by a confirmand and mentor.

Confirmation Sunday is tentatively scheduled for May 27 2012. Please put this date on your calendar now!

Please contact Margery directly to register, or print out, complete and return the form on this website.

Questions? Please contact Rev. Margery Schammel at 410-823-2485 or [mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org)