



Grace United Methodist Church

A community of faith that reflects the light of Christ

Pastors: Rev. Rudy E. Tucker, Jr.
Rev. Janet P. Salbert

Greetings Potential Confirmation Families!

Happy Autumn! We hope that you are ready to start thinking—if you haven't already begun—about **Confirmation at Grace UMC!** Here at Grace we invite students who are seventh grade and above to join confirmation. Confirmation is a series of classes, mission projects, field trips, and even an overnight retreat that will help your student learn about God, build friendships with mentors and peers in the church, and decide if she/he is ready to make a statement of faith in Christ.

Some may have been baptized as a young child or grown up in church, and some may be relatively new to Christianity, but this is **a chance for everyone to learn what it means to be a mature Christian—and to see if she/he is ready to join for themselves!**

Pastor Rudy and Pastor Janet will facilitate the classes and we also have a confirmation class leader, Debbie Cali, Director of Student Ministries. In addition, we invite you to select someone in the congregation to be your student's mentor. The mentor will meet with your student to share their faith, to make a date for ice cream or coffee, and will help them accomplish a mission project offered here at Grace. Please send us your mentor's name or let us know if you need help making that selection.

To help your family make plans—and to let you see what kinds of things will be discussed in Confirmation, our planned schedule for Confirmation 2019 is on the back of this letter. There's **a parallel parent class** that is open to you to facilitate conversation with your student about God and all they are learning. Not everyone will be able to make every session, but if you know your student will miss more than three of the sessions/trips/projects, please talk to us about your situation, since each week builds on previous weeks' experiences.

We are excited about the ways that Confirmation opens up so much for the students who participate, and we hope that you will consider joining the group in the spring of 2019. We will follow up with you, but if you're already sure about Confirmation one way or another for this year, please let Debbie Cali know, if you haven't already; dcali@umcgrace.org or 703-361-7800 ext 122.

God's Blessings to you!

Rev. Rudy Tucker

Rev. Janet Salbert

Debbie Cali

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE 2019

Each week, Confirmation Classes will meet in Room 205 for students (Jr High Classroom) and across the hall in room 14 for parents. The classes will run during Sunday school hour from 9:45 am thru 10:45 am. There are a few outside activities that are also highly recommended. Visit UMCGRACE.org for this schedule and other Student ministry information, Retreat Flyer and registration forms.

January 13, 2019 First meeting of the Confirmation Class Both Parents and Students in Room 205

Jan 18-20 YOUTH RETREAT at Hunting Ridge Retreat Center in Winchester, VA

Jan 27 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

Feb 3 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

Feb 10 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14) Youth Sunday still have class

Feb 17 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

Feb 24 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

March 3 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14) Prep for Ash Wed service

Special Pastors presentation on John Wesley and small group time 6:15-8:15pm

March 6 **Ash Wednesday** Evening service, students should report at 6:30pm to the Sanctuary and help lead the worship that begins at 7:30 pm. (Optional- first Wednesday dinner will be in the fellowship hall for \$7 per person with Reservations beginning at 5:45pm)

March 10 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

March 17 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

March 24 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

March 31 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

April 7 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14) Session 22 & 23

April 14 **Palm Sunday** Help with Eggstravaganza! No class scheduled.

April 21 **Easter Sunday** No scheduled class, HE IS RISEN!

April 28 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

May 5 Student (rm 205) and Parent Class (rm 14)

May 11 Confirmation Celebration and POT LUCK dinner at 5 pm until 7 pm. Whole family welcome!

May 12 Confirmation at the service of your choice, 8:30 am, 9:45 am or 11am *Happy Mother's Day!*

RETREAT 2019

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Where? Hunting Ridge Retreat Center Winchester, VA

When? Friday, Jan 18, Leave Grace at 5:30 arrive at hunting Ridge By 7 pm. WE will return on Sunday Jan 20, at 12 noon. (MLK weekend) We drive the Church bus and van.

Who? Anyone 6th grade or older that would like to attend.

Why? To deepen our faith, grow closer to God, enjoy the beauty of God and to have a BLAST along the way. Contact Debbie Cali 703-932-2456 cell or dcali@umcgrace.org for more information.

COST? \$75 by Dec 1, Cost is \$100 after until the week before we leave. (scholarships available)

This retreat will be multi layered retreat. This means, the Confirmands (7th graders and older interested in being confirmed) will be asked to attend as their Confirmation Retreat, the HS Seniors will be there to have the SR retreat and All other students are invited to take part in the general RETREAT. There will be bible study, worship and prayer time, but there will also be yummy food, Crafts, music, and walks through the beautiful grounds of the retreat center. Each cabin had bunk beds and 2 showers and 2 bathroom stalls and 2 sinks. We have stayed here for Jeremiah Project in the past. They will be cooking the meals and we will just have to RETREAT, relax and let God's spirit lead us.

Please bring: Bible, sheets, and blankets and pillows, as well as, Towels, toiletries, comfy warm clothes, a coat, gloves, comfortable shoes and a positive attitude! (no one may attend without bringing a coat)

This schedule will take the place of youth group. We will still have Sunday evening, and all day Monday as it is a holiday for you to do the things you need to keep up with school etc.

Pastor Rudy, Pastor Janet, will join us to teach the Confirmation students and lead worship. GotHymn? Will perform and other adult leaders will be there to join us. PLEASE pray that this will be a weekend to open our hearts to God even more and learn about each other's stories!

PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY!

Students Name: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____

Where you want updates to be sent:

Email: _____ cell: _____