

## **VPC Student Confirmation Course 2018**

### **Dates**

Classes – Sunday mornings / Jan 7<sup>th</sup> – March 25<sup>th</sup> / 9:15am-10:45am

Meeting with Session Elders – April 8<sup>th</sup>

Confirmation – April 15<sup>th</sup>

### **Location**

Room 310

### **What is Confirmation?**

Confirmation is a public profession of faith that seeks to provide youth with a foundational understanding of our faith and traditions. It is an opportunity to discover or rediscover what you believe and why it is important to know what you believe. It is the decision to make a personal profession of faith, affirming the vows made on your behalf at baptism, taking ownership of your faith & beliefs.

### **What is the process?**

The confirmation process is divided up into 11 lessons on who God is, the church, and how we live as Christians culminating with time to respond to what they have learned. The sessions will be led by experienced leaders of the church who will teach an area that they have extensive knowledge in. All teachers bring a wealth of knowledge in their specialized area, with some having theological training from various seminary programs. During the process each student will develop their own testimony on their Christian walk so far. At the end of the 12 weeks, each student will meet with an elder of the church who will read their testimonies and interview them. The elder will determine that the student is ready for confirmation based on the student's testimony and response to questions regarding their faith. Once approved, students will be confirmed during the Sunday worship service.

### **Why is Confirmation important?**

Confirmation is an important part of the faith journey for those student who desire to delve deeper into what they believe and to develop a strong Christian foundation for life. The teachings are instrumental and foundational building blocks to living a faithful Christian life. It is one of the most important junctures in a young person's life to learn and understand about God's love and grace for them and the importance it has in spreading the gospel to the rest of the world. With high school and college being some of the most difficult and testing times for a student's faith, it is vital that they are equipped and ready to face the world as a strong Christian believer. We want our students to be in the world but not of it.

## **Objective**

The objective of this course is that each student will be engaged and excited to be following Christ and developing a deeper relationship with Him, so that their faith is anchored to a solid foundation and they will take the Gospel truth into this world. We pray that each student will make the decision on their own to choose to be part of the confirmation process as well as deciding at the end if they want to be confirmed. This is a decision that will require a lot of soul searching and some students may not be ready to make this commitment. It is critically important that students are not pressured to participate in the course or in the decision to be confirmed. Rather we want the students to understand the lessons and teachings and make a decision based on what they have learned so they can take the next step in their journey of Christian faith.

## **Lesson Schedule 2018**

Jan 7<sup>th</sup> – I believe

Jan 14<sup>th</sup> – God the Father

Jan 21<sup>st</sup> – Jesus – His identity and birth

Jan 28<sup>th</sup> – Jesus – His death and resurrection

Feb 4<sup>th</sup> – The Holy Spirit and Baptism

Feb 11<sup>th</sup> – The church

Feb 18<sup>th</sup> – Forgiveness

Feb 25<sup>th</sup> – Worship and Communion

March 4 – Evangelism

March 11<sup>th</sup> – Service and Mission

March 18<sup>th</sup> – Reformation and Presbyterian History

March 25<sup>th</sup> – Response and Testimony

## **Other dates**

March 4<sup>th</sup> – First draft of testimony

March 25<sup>th</sup> – Final draft of testimony

## **Movie viewing (Not required but encouraged, all grades will be invited to join)**

Jan 21st 2pm – Chariots of Fire

Feb 19th 2pm Amazing Grace

March 18th 2pm – Luther

## **Commitment**

It is expected that all students attend all sessions, however in the event that a student is unable to attend, we will be videoing each session speaker and the student will be able to go online and view those videos and answer the questions related to the lesson.