



SMLC Confirmation Brief Overview

Greetings!

We'd like to extend an invitation to you to participate in the upcoming Confirmation program at St. Matthew's. We're excited about some of the changes we've made, and hope this addresses needs of families who find their lives are very busy—and yet who still want their kids to experience the benefits of growing in faith.

We really believe a program like this makes a difference. We're hosting several parent sessions to talk about this, but want to make sure everyone has the basic information they need to get signed up. Here's the summary:

Purpose: To help students (and their families) discover resources within the faith community for wrestling with the issues of life.

Requirements: We ask all students to participate in retreats, classroom time, online study, and 3 of the 5 Lenten meals & worship (see attached calendar).

We are testing the online learning component. If students don't participate, or if the quality of the online learning does not meet expectation, we will substitute class time.

Time: We have divided the class into 6 3-week units. Most classes are Wednesdays 7-8:15pm, but one class and several retreats are scheduled on a weekend.

Adult Participation: We also ask/invite parents to attend a separate adult class on the 9 evenings of student class. You are welcome to invite friends to attend these classes.

Behavioral expectations: Respect each other, this place, and what we are doing together

Resources: We will have bibles for the students in class, but if you don't have a copy of the NRSV (New Revised Standard Version) at home please ask and we can provide one. Students will also need online access to complete two units of the class. We can provide time for students on a computer at the church (by appointment).

Costs: Parents are asked to subsidize the costs of the program. Costs include an estimated \$115 per retreat, a possible service project fee of \$20-25, and about \$20 per person for families and friends to attend the confirmation banquet. Scholarships are available to meet these expenses; please talk to one of the pastors.

Please let us know your interest by filling out a registration form, or by sending an email to Pr. Kathryn kathryn.buffum@comcast.net.

From the Confirmation Team – Kirby, Gretchen, Todd, Kathryn