

Dear parents of Confirmation students,

Thank you for trusting us with your children. We are excited to walk with them and with you through this season and are confident that God has something special in store for them. Confirmation is an amazing step forward in the journey of Christian faith in which students can confirm, "This is my faith." In this process, students explore questions that strike to the heart of our faith: Who is Jesus Christ? Who is the God the Father? Who is the Holy Spirit? What is salvation? What is the Bible? How do we grow spiritually? What does it mean to be Methodist? Most importantly, the confirmands are given the opportunity to claim their identity as a follower of Christ in front of their church family.

Confirmation is open to any student 6th-12th grade. It is a "confirming" of God's love in one's life, as well as confirming one's commitment to the Church. In order to be confirmed, students must have been baptized. Any baptism is accepted—whether it was as an infant, at a Methodist Church, or at a non-Methodist church. There will also be an opportunity for baptism on Confirmation Sunday.

As parents, you are the primary source for formation of your child. As you both go through this process, we encourage you to have ongoing conversation together. Tell them about your story. Be honest about where you have doubts or uncertainties. Ask them questions and help their minds and hearts to be caught in wonder for our great God. If the confirmand chooses not to go through with Confirmation, that is okay. We want them to choose freely to be followers of Christ.

Thank you, again, for your support and for considering this experience. It is a big commitment, but when we ask ourselves the question of "What really matters?", confirming God's love in our lives surely falls in that category. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the church office or email <u>wilsonn@munhollandchurch.org</u>. May God bless you in this journey!

Grace and Peace,

Wilson Newell



Requirements and Important Dates for Confirmation

It is required that students going through Confirmation attend Confirmation Sunday, the Confirmation Retreat, and the three Sunday School classes (one excused absence allowed-parents are responsible for teaching the make-up lesson). To sign up for Confirmation, register for the retreat at the link listed below.

Confirmation Sunday School Classes:

Junior High Sunday School Room (201) from 9:30-10:40 on... March 24 March 31 April 7

Confirmation Retreat:

April 12-13, Camp Istrouma Cost: \$50 Register online at www.munhollandumc.org/youth-event

Confirmation Sunday:

April 14, 11:00 Service

"Friend-in-Faith" Mentor

Each confirmand will need to select an adult mentor who is a committed follower of Christ to walk with them through the process. The mentor must be selected, and the name sent to Wilson by **March 17**. Mentors must write at least two letters of affirmation and encouragement and attend Confirmation Sunday. The mentor can be someone from the church, a family member or a friend. Wilson or Pastor Jonathan do not count!

Confirmation Journal

In addition, the students will have an assignment between each class in which they read a Bible passage and answer some questions with a guardian and record them in a Confirmation Journal. It is also a good idea to encourage students to write down questions they may have or prayers in these journals. This journal will be checked for work each week (but not read).