

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Ministry and Confirmation Faith Project Fall, 2023

Welcome to 9<sup>th</sup> grade, as we get closer to your Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) Day Milestone! You've learned much and enjoyed your time in 678 Confirmation (hopefully!) and all of this leads up to **Confirmation Day on October 29** and High School ministry after. Here is a quick peek at how the last part of your Confirmation Milestone and High School ministry is going to look this fall:

### Dates to Know:

- **Now:** We will ask all new 9<sup>th</sup> graders to register. The link will be in the email.
- **Sept. 13 – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Dinner Church/Parent-Confirmand Overview:** Dinner Church begins with food at 5:30 PM, Worship at 6 PM, and an overview of Confirmation Day from 6:30 – 7:30 PM. This gathering is for parents and Confirmands to get up-to-speed on the whole Confirmation process.
- **Sept. 20 – Help Out on Wednesday nights:** Volunteer to be of service in the gym with the little kids, helping set up Dinner Church, or even sit in as a High School helper in a Confirmation Small group.
- **Sept. 20 – High School Group Begins:** You are invited each Wednesday night from 7:45 – 8:30 PM for a drop-in gathering in the Youth Center. Sometimes Bible Study, sometimes other discussions, sometimes games. Come build some connections with others and make some lasting friends! Additional HS Ministry events are also in the works.
- **Oct. 1 Meeting (required):** We plan to have an important gathering to have some offsite fun together, as well as talk about Confirmation Day. Dinner included. A 6 PM start and 9 PM finish.
- **Oct. 15 Small Groups Meeting (required):** We will also gather as small groups (parents need not attend) on Sunday evening, October 15 from 7 – 8:15 PM to go over projects and last-minute Confirmation Day details.
- **Oct. 29 – Confirmation Sunday:** Confirmation Day is in the Trinity Worship Center on Sunday, October 29. Families can choose to attend either the 9 AM or 11 AM service this day. Details on this service will be coming.

### Your Responsibilities

- Create a stole worn on Confirmation Day
- Complete the Faith Project (this packet)
  - Your faith project consists of these parts:
    1. Choosing a Confirmation Bible verse
    2. My Faith Adventure Reflection questions
    3. Creative project (art, essay, poem, video, song, etc.)
    4. Share your creative project with your small group in person
    5. Hold a brief interview with Monty, Pastor Peter or Pastor Chris

### Due Dates

- Your chosen verse needs to be given to your group leader or to Monty Lysne by the end of the small group gathering on October 15.
- Your stole, this packet, your creative project, the sharing of this project with your small group, and your interview are all to be completed by October 29.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith Project – Part 1: Confirmation Verse

Are there any bible verses that have been important in your faith journey so far? *Maybe you've heard one in a song, at a wedding, special church service, a funeral, or during a difficult time in life, etc.*

What characteristics of God (examples: loving, forgiving, fair, powerful, etc.) are important to you? *You might want to do a search using these terms to find some bible verses.*

What kinds of topics or themes are important in your life right now? *You may want to use the Scriptures for Life help sheet or do a search for these themes to find some bible verses.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith Project – Confirmation Verse

(Complete this side on your own)

Select a bible verse that is meaningful to you. It should be a verse that speaks to you, helps you realize that you matter to God, speaks about something important to you, motivates you to follow Christ, shares a promise of God, a word of hope, and/or brings you comfort in difficult times. Use the ideas you came up with on the back of this sheet to help get you started. Once you've picked out your verse, complete the form below and attach it to your faith project.

### What verse(s) have you chosen for your Confirmation?

(Include the book, chapter, and verse number, and the version of the bible you used: *NRSV, NIV, The Message, etc.*)

\_\_\_\_\_

### Write out the verse you've chosen below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Why did you choose this verse? What does this verse mean to you and your life?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith Project – Part 2: Reflection

Pick **THREE (3) questions** below and answer them on a separate sheet of paper. Each answer should be about a paragraph long.

- What places are sacred (holy) to you, where you are most aware of God's presence? How do you know?
- When has prayer been helpful to you? What was going on and how did you see God working at that time?
- Think about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. How does it affect your life? What does He mean to you?
- Did the Covid-19 pandemic experience change anything in your life? Now that we have a bit of distance from it, how might God have been at work back then?
- What are some gifts/talents/strengths that you're most proud of? Where has God given you an opportunity to use those in your life?
- Who have been the people in your life who have helped you on your Christian journey? How?
- What is something that you are REALLY passionate about? Where did that passion come from? How might God be involved in that part of your life?
- What is your faith life like right now? Is it strong? Are you confused? In what areas are you most confident? What might God be teaching you right now?
- What things are you most thankful for in life? Why? How is God a part of these things?
- What events have shaped your faith and trust in God? How have they affected you?
- Think about your experiences with churches (worship, Sunday school, retreats, trips, etc.) What are some things you'll remember for a long time? Why have they been important to you? Where was God present during those experiences?
- What is next for you on your faith journey? Where do you think God might be leading you next?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith Project – Part 3: Where is God at work in your life?

Create a project that represents or tells a personal story of how you've seen God working in your life.

Faith is an ongoing, lifelong process. As a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, you won't have everything figured out, but we hope this project will help you better understand and process where you are at. It can be as creative as you would like it to be!

*Here are a few ideas of what a faith project could look like (the possibilities are endless!):*

- Write a paper with help from your answers from Part 2 (min. 1 full page, double spaced)
- Write a poem, song, or play
- Create a video
- Use a hashtag on Instagram and compile pictures that tell your story
- Create a painting or drawing
- Create a scrapbook of the people, events, books, etc. that have influenced your faith journey

Use any handouts, lesson sheets, etc. you may have saved from your previous years of Confirmation, and parts 1 and 2 of this project to help you think about what you want to create. You should put thought and effort into how your project looks and how it tells the story of God in your life.

Your project is to be unveiled to your small group by the end of October.

**Please Note:** All non-written projects will require a short, 2 paragraph explanation to be included with the project. For example, if you create a collage of photos of family and friends, the explanation should connect the project to how you've seen God working in your life through the people or moments photographed. **BE SPECIFIC! BE THOUGHTFUL!**

