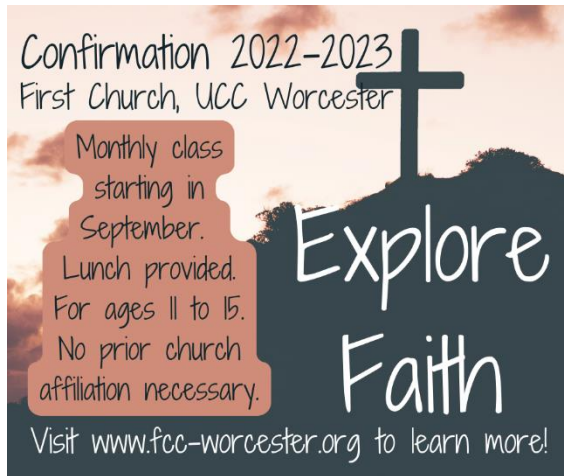


## Confirmation FAQ Sheet



### What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is an opportunity for youth to explore their faith from a Christian lens. For youth who were baptized when they are young, it is a chance to take on the vows their parents/guardians made at baptism. In addition, whereas baptism is a moment of welcome into the Church Universal, confirmation is an opportunity to join a particular congregation, if so desired at the end of the classes.

### Does my child need to be baptized to participate?

No! However, if your child decides to officially be confirmed at the end of the year and join this local church, they will be baptized as part of the Confirmation Ceremony or on a Sunday before if that is what the family would prefer.

### I am not previously connected to First Church. Can my child still participate?

Absolutely! All youth who wish to learn about Christianity and see if this path is the pathway for them are welcome!

### How old must my child be to participated?

For this Confirmation offering, youth ages 11 to 15 are encouraged to join us! If you are concerned about whether your child can handle the class, please reach out to Pastor Josh for further conversation.

### Who will lead the class?

Pastor Josh Fitterling of First Church and Cindy MacLaurin of the Christian Education Committee of First Church will lead the class. If class size warrants additional volunteers, we will find additional support.

### **When will classes meet?**

To provide flexibility for families in this busy day and age, confirmation will be held once a month, on Sunday after worship, for 3 hours, from 11:30am to 2:30pm. The schedule is as follows:

Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Confirmation Retreat – Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Confirmation Sunday – Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

### **Is lunch provided?**

Yes! We will share a meal every time we meet since breaking bread together is an important part of the Christian life. In your registration material, please let us know if there are any food allergies we need to be made aware of.

### **Must my child be at worship services every week?**

No. However, our class will be expected to be in worship on the days we meet and encouraged to be there on other Sundays whenever possible, as worship is important to the Christian life.

### **Is there a mission/service component to confirmation?**

Yes! Our Confirmation class, in support of the Missions Committee, will sell “Hope for Housing” gift cards after worship on Confirmation class Sundays to local grocery stores and shops. A percentage of each card sold helps the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance meet needs of those experiencing housing insecurity.

**What happens at the end of the year?**

At the end of the year, a conversation with every confirmand will be had about officially joining the church and taking on the vows of baptism for themselves. If a youth decides they are not ready, that's okay! We will honor their participation and their path and let them know that they are always welcome here. Those who wish to be confirmed, will be officially welcomed as full members of the church on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Those who may choose to not be confirmed will be expected to join us on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> so we can still honor their journey and give thanks for their participation!

**Can I contact someone with additional questions?**

Most definitely! Please reach out to Pastor Josh at [pastor@fcc-worcester.org](mailto:pastor@fcc-worcester.org) or 610-750-2688 with any questions!