

Dear 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Confirmation Students, Parents, and Mentors,

Thank you for your continued commitment to developing your faith through Confirmation! Our 5 classes for middle school youth this year will be held via Zoom, beginning on Wednesday, September 16. We will focus primarily on the Lord's Prayer (and what Martin Luther had to say about it), and how prayer is a helpful faith practice, particularly in weird and difficult times.

With this year being so different from previous years, Confirmation will look a little different as well. Mentors are strongly encouraged to attend each of the 5 classes to support and learn alongside their students. If a mentor is unable to make a particular week, parents are then encouraged to attend to support their student.

The Zoom classes on **Wednesday evenings will begin at 6:30pm**, and last about 45-60 minutes. The students will be encouraged to participate in some small projects/assignments outside of the class time. Here are the dates of this year's classes:

September 16

September 23

September 30

October 7

October 14

Please note that due to our extended model of Confirmation at Mt. Zion, we only hold 5 periods of instruction per year for each year of middle school. Because there are only 5 class meetings per year, it is important that you make every effort to attend and participate in these classes. These efforts show that you prioritize faith education and formation for your family.

Another update for this year's Confirmation students is the ability to turn in sermon notes online! Feel free to submit sermon notes on paper, via postal mail, or online, following the link on our website. Each student is responsible for completing **12 sermon notes before May 2021**.

We are also looking into opportunities to safely be of service to our congregation and in our community. Because so many service opportunities are not able to be safely done this year due to the pandemic, we are **relaxing the 5 service hour requirement**. However, we strongly encourage you to live out your faith in service to your neighbors in safe ways. As we come up with service opportunities throughout this year, we will invite and encourage you to participate.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to reach out any time at pastor@mtzionhudson.com or 715-396-1465. I look forward to seeing you all on September 16!

Peace be with you,
Pastor Carolyn Staats