

January 17, 2019

Dear Senior High School families:

It's time to talk about Confirmation Class and also the balance of senior high youth offerings for the remainder of the academic year. The gist of what will be offered is a melding of Confirmation Class and senior high youth group for the next three months. Youth who have already been confirmed are encouraged to participate in any or all offerings, as the Sunday evening sessions will feel like regular youth group – with our normal pizza dinner, check-in, ice breakers, announcement, and then “content” time (which will be confirmation-related themes), closing with a prayer. Adults who normally serve as senior high youth group leaders will continue serving as such on Sunday evenings.

Confirmation Class

For youth wanting to participate in these offerings as Confirmation Class – here are some things to know, and also some hopes/expectations:

- 1) The confirmation service will be Saturday, May 4 at 11:00 AM at St. Mark's Cathedral in Minneapolis.
- 2) There will be Trinity-specific celebration of the confirmands the next day on Sunday, May 5th at the 10:15 am service (gifts! cake! general merriment!)
- 3) In addition to participating in the offerings listed below (both learning and service), youth preparing for confirmation will be asked to try out one or more roles on Sunday morning (usher, acolyte, server, lector/reader). You can negotiate the role you want and the Sundays that will work for you with me. I'd like you to participate on two separate Sundays in one of these liturgical roles.
- 4) Maundy Thursday (during Holy Week) is a service usually led by senior high youth (ushers, readers, chalice bearers, acolytes, server, etc). It will occur Thursday, April 18th. I'd like all those preparing for Confirmation to participate in the service. The youth overnight is optional.
- 5) If you are a parent, please consider participating alongside your young person in any or all confirmation offerings, gatherings, and services. You could participate, then, in the service on May 4th by reaffirming your own Baptismal Vows.
- 6) The class will have components of: learning, community & relationship-building with other youth, service to others (Common Bond and First Nations' Kitchen).
- 7) What I ask youth to bring with them is: interest, curiosity, a desire to participate and engage, openness, willingness to take a few risks and engage others.

- 8) Unlike years past, I'm not going to require that youth attend every single offering – it is my hope that they *will* attend everything if they are preparing for Confirmation. But there will be no policing of that expectation on my part. Whoever wants to be confirmed in May can be confirmed. Whoever wants to prepare for that Confirmation can participate in the Confirmation Class.
- 9) If your young person is interested in participating in Confirmation Class, please contact me and let me know at your earliest convenience: devon@trinityexcelsior.org or 612-655-0314.

Anyone in 9th grade or older is eligible to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota. This fall Laura Brubaker will take over leading the senior high youth ministry at Trinity. Our plan is to work toward offering a pilgrimage trip for senior high youth the summer of 2020, and then offer Confirmation Class the following year. This pattern follows the “Journey to Adulthood” curriculum that is used throughout the Episcopal Church, a curriculum that builds programs! Stay tuned for more information about future plans and programming for our young people.

I hope you and your young person/people will consider participating in Confirmation Class this year. It will be dynamic, fun, compelling, engaging, and thought-provoking. It will put Trinity youth in relationship with each other.

If you need more information or want to discuss any aspect of this plan, please contact me!

Peace,

The Rev. Devon Anderson
Rector

DATE & TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COMMENTS
Sunday, Feb 10 6:00 – 8:00 pm	Confirmation Class/Youth Group	Trinity/Youth Room on lower level	Here we go! An overview of Confirmation and an introduction to youth group (dinner, check-in, ice breakers, and program)
Sunday, Feb 17 After 10:15 am service (11:30 am – 1:30 pm)	Training for Common Bond ministry	Trinity/ Fireside Room	Members of City House will be here to train youth and adults in how to be in relationship with people very different from ourselves; training in listening, non-verbals, empathy, etc. We will be joined by other members of the congregation who also want this training. This training is a pre-cursor to the feeding program with Common Bond in Excelsior.
Sunday, Feb 24	No Confirmation Class/Youth Group		
Tuesday, Feb 26 3:00 – 6:30 pm (Come for all or part – see times in Comments)	Common Bond Ministry/Dinner	First Trinity, then Common Bond Excelsior	Trinity kitchen: Food prep (3:00 – 4:30 pm); Transport food to Common Bond & set up (4:30 – 5:00 pm); Serve dinner & hang out with residents (5:00 – 6:00 pm); transport leftovers back & clean-up (6:00 – 6:30 pm). Come for whatever part works for school schedule & after-school requirements.
Sunday, March 3 6:00 – 8:00 pm	FUN (!)	TBA	For anyone that wants to, we'll go have some fun together: bowling or dinner out or skating or whatever. TBA.
Sunday, March 10 6:00 – 8:00 pm	Confirmation Class/Youth Group	Trinity/Youth Rm on lower level	Dinner, Check-in, Ice breakers, Confirmation “lesson”
Sunday, March 17 6:00 – 8:00 pm	Confirmation Class/Youth Group	Trinity/Youth Rm on lower level	Dinner, Check-in, Ice breakers, Confirmation “lesson”
Sunday, March 24	<i>No Confirmation Class/Youth Group</i>		Spring Break for all area high schools
Tuesday, March 26	<i>No Common Bond</i>		Spring Break for all area high schools
Sunday, March 31	<i>No Confirmation Class/Youth Group</i>		Devon in Zambia with Episcopal Relief and Development
Sunday, April 7 6:00 – 8:00 pm	Confirmation Class/Youth Group	Trinity/Youth Rm on lower level	Dinner, Check-in, Ice breakers, Confirmation “lesson”
Sunday, April 14 Palm Sunday	<i>No Confirmation Class/Youth Group</i>		
Thursday, April 18 Maundy Thursday	Service and Lock-In Overnight	Trinity/ Main Sanctuary	Arrive 30 minutes before the service to get oriented and assign roles; stay for dinner and overnight (optional) after service
Sunday, April 21 Easter Sunday	<i>No Confirmation Class/Youth Group</i>		
Tuesday, April 23	Common Bond Ministry/Dinner	First Trinity, then Common Bond Excelsior	Trinity kitchen: Food prep (3:00 – 4:30 pm); Transport food to Common Bond & set up (4:30 – 5:00 pm); Serve dinner & hang out with residents (5:00 – 6:00 pm); transport leftovers back & clean-up (6:00 – 6:30 pm). Come for whatever part works for school schedule & after-school requirements.
Sunday, April 28 6:00 – 8:00 pm	Confirmation Class/Youth Group	Trinity/Youth Rm on lower level	Dinner, Check-in, Ice breakers, Confirmation “lesson”
Saturday, May 4	CONFIRMATION!	St. Mark's Cathedral	
Sunday, May 5	Celebration of Confirmands	Trinity Church, 10:15 am service	Reception to follow (w gifts! cake!)