Dear Parents of Confirmation-Age Students,

We have a great TRADITION here at First Presbyterian in our confirmation class. This is the class that prepares students for making a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ and thereby joining our church. Of course, most importantly, this is the year we explore what it means to have a personal relationship with Christ.

Once again, our students will study and learn key passages from the Bible. Our program is entitled “Top 35 Bible Passages: The Verses You Can’t Live Without!” We’ll study the essential content of the Scriptures with a particular focus on how to know God THROUGH Jesus Christ as he is revealed in his Word. Every lesson will be jam-packed with important material. Indeed, of all the things your children study and do this year, none will be as important as confirmation class. I can make such a bold claim not because we at the church are so great, but because God’s Word is the TRUTH that leads to everlasting life. We want your children to have the knowledge that leads to salvation and an eternal loving relationship with God.

We have a wonderful TEAM of teachers and youth advisors leading your class.

Gerrit S. Dawson
Senior Pastor
The **DESIRE** of First Presbyterian Student Ministry is to:

- create a place where students can **BELONG** to Christ and to one another.
- create a place where every student has a youth leader.
- encourage our students to live beyond themselves.

We are excited about your student joining Student Ministry here at First Presbyterian. We want them to feel comfortable to jump in fully. We have **WEEKLY** opportunities for them to join a small group Bible study where they can grow in Christ with one another and with an incredible Godly leader. We gather on Sunday nights for middle school youth group in the gym. **YEARLY** we enjoy mission trips, retreats, campouts and summer camps as an opportunity to journey together in our faith.

Our **TRADITION** at First Presbyterian is a vigorous one. We work hard! We get the real deal about Christ. This fall, confirmation will meet from 10.15 to 10.55 am in the confirmation classroom below the Sanctuary.

As usual, there are some class **REQUIREMENTS** which you will see on the following pages. At first, they may seem overwhelming. But the course is designed so that 95% of everything required can be fulfilled simply by attending worship and confirmation class each week—a church-going habit you probably already have!
1) **KICK OFF PARTY**

Join the youth team for great food and awesome games planned by the amazing youth team!

Friday, August 19
5-11 pm
Drop off in the church gym

2) **ELDER SPONSOR**

Every confirmation student is matched with an elder from the church. The elders are there to encourage and nurture our students. They will check in with your student throughout the year and spend time outside of class getting to know them. Let us know if you have a request for an elder. (See last page for elder listing.)

3) **BREAKFAST WITH YOUR ELDER**

Come join your sponsoring elder for a delicious breakfast and time of fellowship before the annual Kirkin' O the Tartan 10.30 am worship service. Parents and siblings are invited to attend.

Sunday, October 30 at 9.30 am
4) WORSHIP ATTENDANCE & SERMON NOTES

At least ten Sundays each semester: 20 total

Regular worship is a critical component of confirmation class. Students should be worshiping with their families as well as attending class. Any of our three Sunday services qualify. Of course we hope you’ll be there all 40 Sundays, but for half of those Sundays (ten each semester), we ask for students to fill out and turn in a “Sermon Notes” sheet. Our students find that this actually makes hearing a sermon easier! The note forms are available in class or online at [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org).

5) MEMORY VERSES

We’ll have seven key memory verses, all from Scripture. They go along with what we’re studying:

1. Psalm 139: 13-14
2. Deuteronomy 6: 4-6
3. Psalm 23
4. John 1: 1-5
5. John 3: 16
6. Romans 3: 23
7. Romans 5: 8
8. Romans 6: 23
9. Romans 10: 9

In addition, it is expected that by the end of the year each student will know the Lord’s Prayer, The Apostles’ Creed and how to quickly find the 66 books of the Bible.
6) POLAR THANG RETREAT

January 13-15, 2023

This retreat is a mandatory part of confirmation so please get these dates on your calendar!

7) CLASS ATTENDANCE

24 of the 27 classes are required. Missed classes can be made up by filling out a worksheet available in the classroom or online.

8) PASTORAL MEETING

A personal 15-minute meeting with a pastor in March or April.

9) CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 7, 2023 at 4 pm

Please put these important dates on your calendar now and alert sports teams and arts groups that you have these prior commitments—our experience is that they are very happy to accommodate the spiritual needs of students. If you have not already done so, please return your registration form and fee as soon as possible. It’s going to be a great year. We look forward to the times I get to be with your children—this is a life-transforming year.
Story Set 1: In the Beginning
Memory Passage: Psalm 139: 13-14

August 21
God Made the World
Genesis 1: 1, 25-28, 31

August 28
God Made You on Purpose
Genesis 2: 5-9; 15-25

September 4
No Class
Labor Day Weekend

September 11
We Messed Up
Genesis 3: 1-24

September 18
Abraham and Sarah
Genesis 12: 1-4; Genesis 15: 1-6

September 25
Laughter and Horror

Story Set 2: Radical Salvation
Memory Passage: Deuteronomy 6: 4-6

October 2
God Hears! The Call of Moses
Exodus 1: 22-2: 15; 3: 1-17

October 9
Passover and Exodus
Exodus 11: 4-10; 12: 21-28; 14: 19-31

October 16
God Speaks: The Ten Commandments
Exodus 19: 1-6; 20: 1-17

October 23
The Golden Calf
Exodus 32: 1-20

October 30
Elder Breakfast
9.30 am

August 14
Students and Parents Meet with Confirmation Team

August 19
Confirmation Party
5-11 pm
Story Set 3: The Promised Messiah
Memory Passage: Psalm 23

November 6
The Purpose of All These Words
Deuteronomy 6: 4-25

November 13
Our Shepherd God
Psalm 23

November 20
Mary and Joseph

November 27
No Class
Thanksgiving Weekend

December 4
The Story of Christmas
Luke 2:1-20

December 11
The Mystery and the Mystical
John 1: 1-14

Story Set 4: Jesus’ Ministry
Memory Passage: John 1: 1-5, John 3: 16

December 18
Baptism and Temptation of Jesus
Matthew 3: 13-4: 11

December 25
No Class
Christmas Holiday

January 1
No Class
Christmas Holiday

January 8
Calling Disciples

January 13-15
Polar Thang Retreat

January 22
Sneaking Out to See Jesus
John 3: 1-18

January 29
Two Different Brothers
Luke 15: 11-32
February 5
The Good Samaritan
Luke 10: 25-37

February 12
The Last Man In
Luke 19: 1-10

February 19
No Class
Winter Break

Story Set 5: Jesus’ Passion
Memory Passage:
Romans 3: 23, 5: 8; 6: 23; 10: 9

February 26
The Questions of Membership

March 5
The Last Supper
Matthew 26: 17-29

March 12
The Garden and the Arrest
Matthew 26: 36-46

March 19
The Crucifixion
Matthew 27: 27-50

March 26
Resurrection Evidence
Matthew 27: 62-28: 15

April 2
No Class
Palm Sunday

April 9
No Class
Easter Sunday

April 16
The Walk to Emmaus

April 23
Ascension and Pentecost

April 30
Potential Make Up Class

May 7
Potential Make Up Class
Confirmation Service
4 pm (arrive at 3.30 pm)
2022-2023 ELDERS LISTING

Will Adams
Gerry Arnold
Chuck Barber
Cheryl Brodnax
Jamy Comeaux
Jane Cooper
Lynn Courtney
DJ Davis
Ryan Dickerson
Mike Dorman
Brett Furr
Linda Glisson
Ross Henry
Pat Kerr
Chat Kleinpeter
David Kozan
Jason Lewis
Kevin McCarter
Judy McGimsey
Sue Miley
Hank Mills
Keith Morris
Rick Naqvi
Hans Othmer
Bill Peters
Tom Sawyer
James Slaton
Jerry Stovall
Hardy Swyers
Suzie Thompson