

Dear Parents,

We will be celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation on September 22nd, 2019. This letter is to invite you and your teenager to consider whether they would like to be confirmed this year. Confirmation is an opportunity for them to make a personal decision and recommitment to the promises that were made for them at their baptism. Someone spoke for them when they were baptized, since they were young. But now in the sacrament of Confirmation they can make a mature decision themselves.

The confirmation program is offered to all teenagers who are at least in the 9th grade, and who have not yet been confirmed – the only prerequisite is Baptism. (If they have not been baptized and wish to be, please let me know). We look forward to some great discussions and building a strong Confirmation community.

If your child, or children, wish to be confirmed this year please plan for them to participate in all three components of instruction and preparation:

1. An overnight Confirmation retreat May 17th-18th, 2019,
2. A service component to be done individually over the summer, and
3. A follow-up session on Sunday, September 15th.

The Confirmation Retreat will be held at St. Paul's with a Friday evening trip to the Cheshire House in Raleigh, home of NCSU's Episcopal Campus Ministry. Drop-off is at 4:30 pm and pickup will be at 4 pm on Saturday. It will include panel discussion with NCSU students, many kinds of prayer, baking communion bread, a labyrinth walk, and worship together. There will also be fun and games and s'mores! Details for the service component have not been finalized, but it will be completed over the summer; more details to come on that. The fall gathering will be an afternoon of conversation and lunch from 1-3 Sunday, September 15th.

The retreat will be led by The Rev. Javier Almendárez-Bautista, The Rev. Adrienne Koch, myself and students and staff from ECM. We will approach our faith from the perspective of what is referred to in the Episcopal Church as the three-legged stool of scripture, tradition, and reason. We will consider the spiritual formation provided us through scripture and history, as well as the sacramental, liturgical life of our church as we live our everyday lives.

We hope your child can join us. To register, please complete the attached form and return it to me by May 10th. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Faithfully,

Leah Dail
Youth Program Coordinator
St. Paul's Episcopal Church