2023-2024 (1 or 2 year program)

Confirmation Workbook

This workbook belongs to:

***If found please return to:***

Union-Congregational Church UCC

125 Beaver Dam Street

Waupun WI, 53963

920-324-2801

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Dear Student,

 Welcome to an exciting step in your Faith Formation! Faith Formation is an ongoing journey that never ends. It started when you were born. The decisions your parents and family made about how you were exposed to faith in your young life, all built up to your faith now. Everyone is at a different place in his or her faith formation journey.

 Church, baptism, Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, holidays, and home life were some of the decisions your family may have made for you to start you off on your faith journey. The next step you are about to take yourself, with the help of your family, friends, and church family.

 The Confirmation Program is a 2-year preparation for your confirmation. During the next 2 years you will be:

* Learning about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit through the Bible, the history of Christianity, the United Church of Christ, & our church
* Actively learning what is involved in the workings of our church
* Experiencing and examining church services and sermons
* Observing how every individual regardless of age or gender is vital to our church
* Sharing their talents with the church, the community and the world
* And so much more!

At the conclusion of your 2-year Confirmation journey, there is a Confirmation Ceremony, where you will choose whether or not to become a confirmed member of our church.

What is Confirmation?

* Confirming that you choose this as your spiritual path
* Confirming that you choose to be a member of the Union-Congregational Church
* Confirming that you choose to continue to grow in your faith formation
* Confirming that you choose to take your place within your church family as a member with full rights and privileges

Let’s get started!!

Confirmation Journey Workbook

 This is your workbook for the next two years **(until Spring 2019)**. This workbook is your responsibility and it is your job to read it through. If you have any questions, please ask.

 In this workbook, you will find different areas that we consider Core Values. There are different expectations with activities in each of these Core Values. After an activity is fulfilled, you will then fill out the appropriate lines and have it signed by a supervising adult. We also ask that a parent initials each completed activity. It is important that it is not signed until all parts of that activity are completed.

 You are not limited to the activities listed. Be creative; come up with something that utilizes your talents! If you come up with an activity that is not listed, but falls into the Core Value, all you have to do is get pre-approval from the Pastor, Christian Education Coordinator, your Faith Partner or a Board of Christian Education Member.

 Remember, as you read through this workbook, the expectations listed are for the 2-year program. You have until **Spring 2019** to do all of this, but don’t let it get away from you by waiting until the last minute, start now. Help others, meet new people, learn new things, and have fun!

**Program Overview**

**Core Value 1: Service**

**Service to Church**

 We have listed many different service activities to the church. These are voluntary jobs/services that keep the church running. After you complete an activity, have a supervising adult sign, date the entry and have your parent initial it. There is contact information listed in the back of this workbook to help you.

**Service to Community/World**

 We have listed many different service activities to the local community or the world. These are voluntary jobs/services that assist those who need help. Some of them require you to fill out volunteer sheets before hand; some require training courses prior to participating. After you complete an activity, have a supervising adult sign, date the entry and have a parent initial it.

**Core Value 2: Worship**

**Worship Service**

We have listed many different activities that are important to executing a worship service. After you complete an activity have a supervising adult, mentor, Pastor Jacob, Usher, Deacon on Duty, or Board of Christian Education Member sign, date the appropriate entry and have a parent initial it.

**Sermon Notes**

Hearing and experiencing a sermon is a way of getting God’s message. This is your chance to hear a sermon and really think about what is being said and how you can use that message. There is a *sermon notes* sheet for our church, and another for other places of worship. You will be given a packet of these at your orientation. If you need extra sheets, you will find a master copy at the back of your workbook or they are also located on the church website. When you complete your sermon notes, they should be turned into your Faith Partner.

**Core Value 3: Congregational Connection**

**Faith Partners**

You will be given a Faith Partner. A faith partner is an individual who will walk with you along your confirmation journey. They will be there to talk with, answer questions, and if they don’t know, help you find the answers, listen to and support you, and participate in activities with you. You should meet with your Faith Partner a minimum of once a month for confirmation class, service, worship, or church activities. There is a log to write down the times you spend together and what you did.

**Core Value 4: Wisdom**

 You will be given the opportunity to broaden your wisdom by participating in discussions with the Pastor, learning about Christianity and our church history, attending confirmation activities, and fulfilling some memorization requirements.

Insert: Page 1, 2 , 3, 4, 5, History? From the ”Jesus” Booklet

**Service - Church**

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering*

*God’s grace in the various forms.*

1 Peter 4:10

Serve God through serving others, by being good stewards to the church, to the community, and to the world.

**Complete 7 different services to the church-up to 2 times per service item.**

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Bulleted list of suggestions:

* Create your own with Pastor approval
* Aid with coffee hour
* Usher
* Special Music/Sing with the choir
* VBS Assistant
* Sunday School Helper/Shepard
* Assist with the Giving Tree
* Set-Up/Take-Down of Christmas Decorations
* Assist with Media Presentations
* Liturgist
* Aid in clean-up day for landscaping and/or indoors
* Aid with missions committee
* Help with reunion Sunday

**Service - Community & World**

*For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.*

John 13:15

**Complete 3 different services to the community & world.**

**NOTE:** There will be approximately 8 opportunities provided during the course of confirmation.

If you are not able to attend the community opportunities provided to you, you may choose a different opportunity with approval from the Pastor or CE Committee.

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Sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initial:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bulleted list of suggestions:

* Volunteer at the Food Pantry
* Help at community table
* Shut in visit with the Pastor
* Nursing home visit or volunteer
* Special planned Mission Trip
* Volunteer at soup kitchen
* Help with habitat for humanity
* Salvation Army Bell Ringing
* Volunteer at Animal Shelter
* Plan & execute a park/community clean up
* Volunteer at UCC Brat Fry

**Worship**

*And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds,*

 *not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another,*

 *and all the more as you see the Day approaching*

Hebrews 10:24-25

Worship is the “work of the people.” Worship allows Confirmands to experience the church family and church traditions in a way no other experience provides. Worship is an integral part of broadening and defining your faith.

**Sermon Note Log**

Fill out a minimum of 20 sermon notes at U-CC, other churches, online sermons, etc. At least 2 of these should be from a church or a place of worship other than the Union-Congregational Church. These should be turned into the Pastor.

**Record dates of sermon notes below (zoom and youtube and archived on the website)**

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**\*\*\*Must attend at least 50% in person**

**Sermon Notes U-CC**

Date attended:

What is the title of today’s sermon?

What Scripture was used?

What is/are the main point(s)?

What illustrations/stories were told or used?

What questions do you have that came from the sermon?

What is God inviting you to do this week?

**Sermon Notes - Alternate Worship**

Date attended:

Place attended:

Name of minister, priest, rabbi, leader, etc:

What is the title of today’s sermon?

What Scripture is used?

What is/are the main point(s)?

What illustrations/stories were told or used?

What questions do you have that came from the sermon?

What is God inviting you to do this week?

What did you find that is different in this worship service from ours?

What ways did you feel welcomed into the worshiping community?

What, if anything, would you want to introduce into the worship at Union-Congregational Church?

**Congregational Connection**

*For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.*

*We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us...*

Romans 12:4-6

By learning how the church functions, and working alongside other members, you will learn how people of all ages are an integral part of the church as a whole. And by creating and deepening the feeling of belonging, you will get to know your church community as a place where you are respected, valued, safe, and loved.

**Faith Partner Connection Log:** Meet with your faith partner at least once a month. Sit together after church, go for lunch, greet, serve coffee, or participate in a service activity, whatever you choose.

**September:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Activity:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**October:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Activity:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**November:**  Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**December:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**January:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**February:**  Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**March:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**April:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Wisdom**

*Know that wisdom is such to your soul; if you find it, you will find a future,*

*and your hope will not be cut off.*

Proverbs 24:14

Our hope is for you to come to understand the message of the Bible, to give you courage to ask questions, and to familiarize you to the use of the Bible in everyday life. Along the way, you will learn the history of Christianity, the United Church of Christ, and our church.

Toward the end of your confirmation journey, you will be asked to write a paper on one of the Faith Traits you have learned about. You will present this to the congregation in a morning worship service on Confirmation Sunday.

Confirmation Students will also be asked to memorize the following:

**The Great Commandments**

He said to him, “’You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’”

Matthew 22:37-40

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and glory forever.*

**The Ten Commandments –**

You may memorize the wording written in Exodus 20:1-17 or you may learn the following:

1. Put God first
2. Worship God only
3. Use God’s name with respect
4. Remember God’s holy day
5. Respect your parents
6. Do not hurt other people
7. Be faithful in marriage
8. Do not steal
9. Do not lie
10. Do not be envious of what others have