



August 27, 2021

Dear Hope Confirmation Parents,

Confirmation is almost ready to kick off and we are all excited for another year of spiritual growth and learning for your child. These are important years in their life and we pray that their faith and trust in the Lord will deepen.

As you know, our Confirmation Orientation meeting is scheduled for this Sunday, August 29, at 1:00 PM in the Sanctuary at Hope. In advance of that meeting, and in consideration of the current pandemic statistics in our state and county, we want to make you aware of these important updates for the 2021-22 Confirmation Program.

Orientation:

- The orientation will proceed as scheduled, with one adjustment. Students are highly encouraged to attend, but will no longer be required to be there this Sunday. At least one parent or guardian should plan on attending.

Classes:

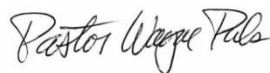
- As attendance at Confirmation classes is a requirement of the Confirmation Program, we are now happy to announce that parents may choose a virtual option for their children.
- Confirmation students who choose the virtual option will participate in the large group and small group lessons online, Sunday mornings 9:45-10:45 AM; and will be required to participate in Hope's online worship services weekly at either 8:30 or 11:00 AM.
- Currently, as masks are not required by the State of North Carolina or the Town of Wake Forest, masks are not required for activities at Hope Lutheran Church, including for those who opt to attend in-person Confirmation classes.
- If, at a future time, masks are required by the State of North Carolina or the Town of Wake Forest, we will inform you of any updates to the mask requirement at Hope.
- If you have already signed up for classes, please email Steve smccarthy@hopelutheranwf.org to indicate if your child plans on participating virtually.
- If you have not yet signed up, go to www.hopelutheranwf.org/confirmation and register for classes – indicating in the form if you plan on participating virtually or in-person.

Retreat:

- The Fall retreat this year is going to be shortened to a day-trip on Saturday, September 11.
- The cost will be reduced to \$50 in order to cover the cost of transportation, materials, dinner, and Camp Willow Springs facilities.
- We will meet at CWS at 9:00 AM the morning of the 11th and leave camp by 8:00 PM.
- Each student should bring a backpack containing the following items:
 - Reusable water bottle
 - Swimsuit, extra set of clothes & towel for pool
 - Hat and sunscreen
 - Sack lunch
 - Bible
 - Closed-toed shoes
- Currently, masks are not required for the trip, but are highly encouraged for those not vaccinated.
- The majority of the retreat activities will take place outdoors.
- Participation in the retreat is no longer required, but highly encouraged.
- There will be some extra seats available for kids to ride up and back with adult leaders or other parents. Parents are encouraged to drive up and pick up their own kids or arrange their own carpools. Please contact Steve smccarthy@hopelutheranwf.org if...
 - You are unable to drive your kid or find a carpool, and need your kid to ride up and/or back with an adult leader or another parent
 - You have extra seats in your car and are willing to drive up and/or back other kids
- If you've already signed up and paid, you will be refunded the cost difference.
- If you haven't signed up yet but are able to participate due to the changes, please register this weekend at www.hopelutheranwf.org/confirmation.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and thank you for continuing to make your child's faith formation a priority.

In Christ,



Pastor Wayne Puls



Pastor Lew Upchurch



Lead DCE Beth Agner



DCE Steve McCarthy
Confirmation Program
Coordinator



DCE Wesley Spottiswood