
CONFIRMATION 2021

Information Packet

Eagle River Presbyterian Church

CONFIRMATION MATTERS

Eagle River Presbyterian Church is a community of faith that seeks to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ. This year you are invited to respond to God's call to be a disciple. During this time, you will experience God in many new ways through community, study, prayer, and serving. Through these experiences, you will be challenged and encouraged to develop a close and personal relationship with Jesus. In May, you will be given the opportunity to decide for yourself about taking another step in your faith journey – being confirmed.

We ask that you take this year seriously. Everything is important in Confirmation. We know it will be a struggle to participate in every class gathering, but we strongly encourage you to make your confirmation experience a very high priority in your life this year.

Confirmation is not an end in and of itself, but a part of your life long faith journey. Confirmation will build on all that has gone before –what your parents have taught you and what you have learned in church. It will open the door to a continuing faith journey that will go far beyond high school and college...one that will progress throughout the rest of your life.

If and when you were baptized, your parents and the whole church family made vows to lovingly raise you in the Christian faith. Confirmation class prepares you to be intentional about continuing to learn more about God, how to have a relationship with Jesus, and how to claim that faith as your own. Simply put, Confirmation is a time for you to explore your faith in God, learn about Presbyterian traditions, and grow in community with one another.

CLASS MEMBERSHIP

Confirmation Class is for students who are in 8th grade and up. Our Confirmation Class is open to all students, whether or not your family calls ERPC its home church. If you have participated in Confirmation before and want to join the class again, you are welcome.

CLASS INFORMATION

CLASS SESSIONS

Nine Sundays | 11:00AM-12:00PM | Zoom

During our session time, you will have a chance to experience God in new ways, as we learn about God's story, Jesus' Gospel message, and who God calls us to be in the world.

CLASS RETREATS

Three Fridays | 6:30 – 8:30PM | Zoom

Retreats are designed for you to engage in and experience community. This will be an extended time to get-to-know one another. Our hope is this may be a pathway to new friendships.

ADDITIONAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Statement of Faith

A Statement of Faith is a brief summary of what you believe, hope, and trust about God. The finished project will be your own statement of faith in God and Jesus. To put it simply, a faith statement answers the question, "What is my relationship with God, and Jesus?" We will provide a help sheet to guide you in creating your Statement of Faith.

Be Presented to Session

You are asked to attend one of our church's Session meetings. Our Session is a group of elected leaders. This will be a short meet and greet, where the members of Session will be introduced. Based on your Statements of Faith, the session members may ask questions about your life and experience with Confirmation.

Worship Service Notes

Worship is one way we practice our faith. Worship notes are meant to help you become more engaged in corporate or community worship. You will have to attend and engage with 4 worship services in person or watch online. There will be an online form to complete.

Adult Mentor

You are asked to discover and pick a trusted adult to be your mentor during confirmation. Parents, please help in the selection process. This person can be any adult who is connected to you and your family and someone who has invested care and time toward you.

You and this Adult Mentor will meet once a month starting in mid-February for a total of 4 times. Adult Mentors will meet with Jordan to explain more of their responsibilities; however, the main focus is for the Adult Mentor and you to spend time together, and explore more about the journey of faith. Jordan will provide some training, materials and guided help sheets for the adult mentors, so they can create a meaningful and impactful time.

HOME & CHURCH

FAMILY PARTICIPATION

We encourage families to participate in their student's confirmation journey by attending worship services together as a family whenever possible; online or in-person.

PARENT VOLUNTEERING

Confirmation Class is a ministry where home (family) and church come together to introduce and invite students into a relationship with Jesus. This may include helping co-lead a session, chaperone a retreat, or provide snacks for class gatherings.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On this special Sunday during the 9:30 AM service, all students who participated in Confirmation will have the opportunity to be confirmed and celebrated. You will have the opportunity to say "yes" and affirm your faith in God and your relationship with Jesus Christ. This does not mean you have all the answers. Faith is a journey for all of one's life – some days it will be easy to believe and trust Jesus; some days it will be hard. However, you can always hope and trust in God's promises and our church family.

THE DECISION IS YOURS

The decision to be confirmed is a very personal one. Adult leaders and parents will be available to guide, but the decision is yours alone. If you choose to wait, that decision will be received with love. Choosing not to be confirmed does not affect your ability to participate in any activity ERPC offers, and more importantly, it does not affect God's love for you.

When you choose to be confirmed:

You will become a full member of ERPC, which opens the door to leadership opportunities. ERPC can help you discover what God is calling you to be and to do.

BAPTISM

If you have been baptized, we affirm your baptism. We believe baptism is a symbol of God's gift to us. God's gift does not have to be repeated, regardless of the church in which you were baptized, or whether or not you can remember being baptized.

If you have not been baptized you will be given the opportunity to be baptized during the Confirmation Service.

In addition, if you want to reaffirm your baptism, we will do so during the Confirmation Service.

CLASS SCHEDULE

#	Dates	Sessions
1	Friday, January 29	Retreat 1 6:00-7:15 PM
2	Sunday, Feb. 7	Session 1 11:00AM - Noon
3	Sunday, Feb 21	Session 2 11:00AM - Noon
4	Friday, Feb. 26	Retreat 2 6:00-7:15 PM
5	Sunday, March 7	Session 3 11:00AM - Noon
6	Sunday, March 21	Session 4 11:00AM - Noon
7	Friday, April 2	Retreat 3 6:00-7:15 PM
8	Sunday, April 11	Session 5 11:00AM - Noon
9	Sunday, April 30	Session 6 11:00AM - Noon
10	Sunday, May 2	Session 7 11:00AM - Noon
11	Tuesday, May 11	Church Session 'Meet & Greet' 5:15-6:00PM
12	Sunday, May 16	Session 8 11:00AM - Noon
13	Sunday, May 23	Session 9 11:00AM - Noon
14	Sunday, June 6	Confirmation Sunday 9:30AM service

EXPECTATIONS

We believe this is a pivotal time in your faith journey. If you must miss a Confirmation gathering, please contact Jordan Shive, so we can provide class materials as 'homework'.

SIGN UP FOR CONFIRMATION CLASS

Discuss this packet as a family. If you decide to participate in this upcoming Confirmation Class, email jordan@erpc.org, and he will send an online *Class Registration* form which you will need to complete and submit.