

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

IN OUR PRAYERS: Ashlyn; Jim Cleveland; Emily Slone; Barb Myers; Carolyn Wilkins; Judie Spencer; Jack Vaught; Ken Lahrman; Tony Sikora; Afghan Christians; those affected by Hurricane Ida

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today by Brian & Suzette Salomon in loving memory of Roger Harris.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS TODAY! We will celebrate with ice cream and other light refreshments after the second service. Join us!

CONFIRMATION begins TODAY at 11:30am. **Parents, please plan to attend this first session!**

YOUTH GROUP TODAY! We'll start with dinner at 6pm at the church. Bring a friend or two! Help us plan our topics and events for the year!

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION during both worship services next Sunday, September 19, and with refreshments between services.

PHOTOS FOR NEW DIRECTORY: we will have a photographer at church on Wednesday, Sept. 15; Sunday, Sept. 19; and Sunday, Oct. 3.

GOLF OUTING: Saturday, Oct. 9, at Eagle Glen in CC. It's a fundraiser for Woodlands Senior Activity Center. Ask Pr. Mullet for more info!

CALENDAR

Sun. Sep. 12 (Trinity 15)	8:00 & 10:00am Worship 9:00am Sunday School & Bible Study 11:00am Ice Cream Social 11:30am Confirmation (parents please attend) 6:00pm Youth Group
Wed. Sep. 15	7:00pm Holy Communion 8:00pm Directory Photos
Thu. Sep. 16	7:00pm Bible Study
Sun. Sep. 19 (60th Anniversary)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Sunday School & Bible Study 9:00 & 11:00am Directory Photos 11:30am Confirmation

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Today begins a “new year” of education in the life of our congregation. Sunday School begins for all ages, with offerings for those in preschool—5th grade downstairs and offerings for middle school students, high school students, and adults upstairs. Before all else, join me in thanking our Sunday School superintendent, Amy Wagner, and all who teach our various age groups for all their work.

Today also begins another important endeavor: confirmation. It is easy to think of confirmation as a two-year class, something you “just have to do,” something to get through and graduate from. It’s easy for our youth to have this mindset, and it’s easy for our parents to have this mindset too. It is true that your two years of confirmation instruction are a little more intensive than the Sunday School that came before it. But it is *so important* to see confirmation as a step in a lifelong process.

Learning the Christian faith, the Bible, the Catechism, doesn’t begin or end in confirmation class. It begins in our earliest years, when we hear our parents read the Bible to us, when we pray together with our families, when we attend church services and Sunday School. Do we *understand* everything we see and hear? Of course not! And part of confirmation is beginning to understand more deeply all the things we’ve already learned. But, as I said, learning the faith doesn’t end in confirmation class, either. Growth in the faith is a *life-long process*; sometimes we call this “discipleship.” So do we continue to come to church and Bible study, even after confirmation ends.

Let me encourage you, at the beginning of our new “educational year,” to join us for Bible study, for Sunday School, and most especially for church. These are opportunities to learn the faith and grow in the faith, no matter your age or level of knowledge. Look for more Bible study opportunities to be coming soon! Want to learn about something specific? Ask me! I’m always happy to lend a book or two.

May God richly bless all those who teach and all those who learn, that by learning the faith and growing in the faith we may come to a closer relationship with God and with one another.

-Pr. Mullet