

August 27, 2020

**To: All 6th Grade Future Confirmation Students and their Parents and
All 7th and 8th Grade Confirmation Students and their Parents**

Welcome to the Confirmation Program at Abiding Savior! This year of Confirmation will be like no other as we navigate this virus together! Be sure to look over the enclosed materials to discover how we will be going about having Confirmation this Fall.

First of all, we will be beginning our year meeting outside for Confirmation in the church's big backyard area on **Wednesday, September 16 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM**. We plan to begin with a brief opening worship followed by a teaching time by one of the pastors. Then we will break into our small groups spread out in the backyard. Kids and leaders will be wearing masks and we ask everyone to bring their own chair. We plan to remain outside for Confirmation through October 14 which will also complete our first unit on the Apostle's Creed. After October 14 we will reassess our situation hopefully moving Confirmation indoors socially distanced in our large Sanctuary area. If that is not possible, we will begin an online program using both videos and Zoom calls for our next units on Stewardship and The Church running October 21 through November 11.

After November 11 we plan to take a break until January 13. During this break there will be chances for the kids to connect through youth events whether in person or virtually. In January, we will again reassess our Confirmation program in light of the virus and plan either in person sessions socially distanced or virtual sessions. January 13 to February 3 we will begin our study of the Old Testament. During the season of Lent we will take a break from weekly Confirmation meetings and instead have the kids attend Lenten services on Wednesday evenings with their mentors. We do not yet know if these services will be in person or virtual. Lent starts February 17 with Ash Wednesday and runs through Easter Sunday. We will finish off our Old Testament unit and our Confirmation year meeting weekly on Wednesdays from April 7 to May 5. We will again assess our program and decide if these final sessions will be outside, inside socially distanced, or all online.

Enclosed is a registration form for all Confirmation Students. Our Confirmation Program includes 6th, 7th and 8th graders, with students being confirmed in the fall of 9th grade. We include parents in many aspects of our program and look forward to working with you to encourage your child in the faith.

Orientation for **confirmation students and parents** will be done virtually this year. Please visit www.abidingsavior.org and click on the Confirmation tab. There you will find a short orientation video from Pastor Ryan as well as all the forms and information needed for Confirmation this year. You can also register online and pay the \$40 Confirmation registration online. Please note that this fee does not cover the costs of any retreats should we be able to hold our annual Confirmation retreat at Camp WAPO.

Enclosed is a list of important dates for you to get on your calendars. We hope and pray that you will have a wonderful experience in our Confirmation program, and we are all looking forward to a fun and exciting (if not unusual) year. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ryan at pastorryan@abidingsavior.org.

Pastor Ryan and Pastor Lisa