

The logo features the word "EXPLORE" in a blue, sans-serif font, enclosed within a blue, hand-drawn style banner. The banner has a wavy top and bottom edge and is surrounded by several short, radiating lines, giving it a sense of motion or discovery.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Explore is a beloved part of our church calendar here at First Presbyterian. Year after year, it is always amazing to watch God work in and through students' lives during the Confirmation process. The purpose of this discipleship program is to help students learn the basics of Christianity, the tenets of the Presbyterian tradition, and what it means to become a Covenant Partner of First Presbyterian Church. Our intention is for the confirmation process to be an experience of both the HEART and the HEAD. The two questions that each student will be seeking to answer are, "Who is Jesus to me?" and "Do I want to join First Presbyterian Church?" When the study portion of the class is completed in 8th grade, each student will have the opportunity to affirm his/her faith and become a Covenant Partner of First Presbyterian Church as they transition into High School.

The design of this class includes weekly teaching times, mentor relationships, two retreats, two class parties, a service project, a mid-course gathering for parents, and a mid-course gathering for mentors. At the end of the semester, students and families will gather and celebrate the student's completion of the Exploration phase of Confirmation. A public recognition of their completing the class will be made during worship on Celebration Sunday.

Mentors

As some of you may know, mentors are a vital element to this process. Over and over, we have seen students benefit immensely from spending time with a loving, listening, and caring adult who is passionate about their walk with Christ. It is a powerful thing for them to have firsthand knowledge of lives transformed by Christ, and a trusted adult friend in whom they can confide. We encourage you to choose a Confirmation Mentor who is a person your confirmand admires and respects. We think that it is advantageous for this person to be someone other than a family member, so that your son or daughter is increasing the number of trusted adult voices in their lives. Take some time to discuss possible mentors with your son or daughter. Our mentor expectations list, which you will receive as well, shares guidelines for choosing mentors so that when recruiting your mentor, you can provide them with a realistic idea of what the process will entail.

Registration

Registration opens in September of each year. Students in 8th grade will receive an email with all the registration information and details. The total fee for Confirmation Explore is \$150.00. We never want the cost of anything to prohibit students from participating in any event at First Presbyterian. We feel especially strong about that regarding the Confirmation Class so please contact a youth ministry staff person about payment arrangements or adjustment if needed. We are blessed to have a church that supports our youth with a scholarship fund if there is need for support in this way.