

Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Somonauk, Illinois

Rev. Kirk Moore, Pastor

CONFIRMATION

What Is Confirmation?

Confirmation has been described as follows:

“Confirmation is the renewal of the baptismal covenant. The baptized children, having been instructed in the Christian faith, publicly confess their faith in their Savior Jesus Christ, promise obedience to God until death and are received by the church into active membership.”

Who Participates in Confirmation?

Reverend Moore is the main teacher for confirmation – occasional guest speakers are likely too! Students participate during their 7th and 8th grade years. Both grades participate in class together – as we offer different presentations of the confirmation curriculum in each year.

Purpose of Confirmation Classes

Through the confirmation classes, the student comes to a deeper knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith and its implications for Christian living. At the conclusion of the classes, the student should be able to affirm (if they so desire) the confirmation vows with an understanding and knowledge of what the vows entail.

The Confirmation vows are as follows:

1. Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?
2. Do you confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?
3. Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?
4. Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

Content of the Classes

The class material covers four main areas:

1. **Faith** – Taking the Bible seriously, thinking theologically and addressing the big faith questions together.
2. **Christian Beliefs** – God; the Trinity; the person of Jesus Christ; the Holy Spirit; salvation.
3. **The Church** – what the Church is; worship; mission; the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; The past, present and future of Union Congregational Church and of the United Church of Christ.
4. **Christian Commitment** – faith; prayer; discipleship; service.