

Steps toward Confirmation at Good Shepherd and St. Philip's—The Specifics

Each of the following are important areas of the faith development in young people. As they experience the practice of the Christian faith through worship, study, and service to others they experience a living faith that makes a difference amid the many challenges of life.

We ask that each youth strive to reach 200 or more “points”. Starting in 6th grade or above, this can easily be achieved in two years or less. When they have reached the 200 mark they are encouraged to affirm their faith in Jesus Christ in the ritual of “Confirmation”. Some things are assigned a high points value while others are lower depending on the type of activity. We hope that the youth will engage in as many of these aspects of the life of the church as possible.

We require that at least 20 points come from sermon notes, 20 from serving in worship, and at least 40 from service opportunities, and 40 from Sunday School or CrossTown activities. Parents and children should keep an accurate accounting of their activities throughout the process.

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Sermon Notes (form provided on church website) **5 points/occasion**

Listen to and reflect on a sermon from worship. It could be heard in person or online. Notes include the primary scripture the sermon addresses, the theme as you understood it in a few short words, and ways in which you might apply it to your life as a person seeking to live following the example of Jesus. Sermon note forms can be found online on the church website or as you enter the worship space. After completing your sermon note form, please share it with Abby or the pastor/rector.

Serving in a worship service **5 points/occasion**

This worship could be at Good Shepherd, St. Philip's, or a CrossTown youth-led worship. Serving roles at Good Shepherd include: reader, acolyte, banner bearer, greeter usher assisting minister, communion assistant, etc. Serving roles at St. Philip's include: acolyte, reader, crucifer, banner bearer, and usher.

Please connect with the person(s) responsible for training and scheduling youth for these roles.

Sunday Morning Education Time **5 points/occasion**

Attending and participating in these Sunday morning gatherings from 9:15-10am are meant to help middle and Highschool youth address the questions they have in integrating Christian faith and values in the midst of the issues they face at home, school, and in relationship with others.

Attending Summer Camp **75 points**

St Philip's: Two weekends with Diocesan Youth or a week at Camp Henry. The Episcopal diocesan weekends and Camp Henry will serve as an option for those seeking confirmation in the Episcopal Church.

A one-week camp at Lutheridge in Arden is designed to give Lutheran youth an experience of spiritual growth and building Christ-centered relationships with other youth their age.

Dates for both the Lutheran and Episcopal camps will be announced in early Spring and sign-ups will happen through the Novusway website and Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina. Abby Glass can also help you identify a camp appropriate for you.

Christian Camp is one of the strongest faith-building blocks in a young person's life which is why we prioritize this opportunity.

Participate in the "Good Philip Weekend Family Retreat" 35 points

This weekend retreat held at a local camp on a weekend in February will give families opportunity to spend time together and with the other youth and families of St. Philip's and Good Shepherd. We'll eat, play, worship, tell stories, make s'mores, and learn some interesting things about what it means to live out our baptismal calling.

Participate in CrossTown Sunday afternoon events 5 points/occasion

Join in the fun and fellowship of young people your age from area youth groups. Locations change but emails will keep you informed about when and where the next gathering happens.

Engage in Youth Service Opportunities 10 points/occasion

Youth are highly encouraged to live out their faith in service to others. Both churches offer a number of opportunities to serve. Community service projects also count. If the service opportunity happens to be a Crosstown Event, it will count as 15 points. Keep track of all the service opportunities you engage in and be assured that you are making a difference for good.