

# What exactly is Confirmation?

Confirmation is a part of the larger baptismal process of making disciples. In this rite, we publicly renew our commitment to God and God's church. Confirmation also marks a time when we may decide to officially join the local church where we worship (e.g. Oxford-University United Methodist Church). Most importantly, confirmation marks the continuation of a committed life-long journey of faith in Jesus Christ.

1. The word "confirmation" literally means "with firm-ness". Confirmation means to make solid that which was done earlier (our baptisms in Jesus Christ or our confessions that Christ is Lord).
2. Confirmation is about God's gift of Jesus Christ. It is about acknowledging and responding to God's love.
3. At Confirmation we acknowledge that we are no longer children. We are youth, making our passage toward being adults. We no longer depend solely on our parents' decisions in matters of faith. We are old enough to make some decisions for ourselves. We have reached the "age of accountability." Sure, our parents and mentors still help us, but more responsibility regarding our faith journey passes to us.
4. We are ready now to know what it means to be a Christian, what we believe as the Church and as United Methodists. We are ready to learn more about our church history and heritage.
5. We are ready to make an important decision about whether or not we want to join the United Methodist Church here at OUUMC.