

Retreat for Confirmation-Age Youth Schedule

“Growing into the Reformed Christian Faith” Friday Session 1: Family Trees

- Begin with a small group experience of a eucharistic meal in the Roman Catacombs
- Experience the medieval Latin mass with debrief and questions to follow
- Presentation on the Christian Family Tree from beginnings to Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant
- **Key Themes:** We're born into a faith family with a backstory. There are different ways to be Christian, and to be Reformed means claiming your place on a branch of Christianity that emphasizes ongoing reform in the Christian life.

Saturday Session 2: Living by Grace in the Reformed Tradition

Orient Reformed belief/life around 4 themes

- Sovereignty of God
- The power of sin in every aspect of our lives
- Unconditional Grace in Christ as a comfort
- Gratitude and Stewardship as responses to God's amazing gift
- Work together on how Reformed beliefs address current issues, like climate change.
- **Key Themes:** How we think about and relate to God is important; and the Reformed tradition helps us do that. Confirmation involves thinking with the tradition, challenging it, and owning it as part of your life.

Saturday Session 3: How to Be a Lifelong Church Member and Bible Lover

- Reformed Christians make direct connections with the Bible because it is the main resource for shaping our lives and reforming the Church and the world.
- Some practical advice on how to open the Bible, read it, pray with it, and grow in it.
- In the Presbyterian church, confirmation makes you a full member of the community who can vote and help lead the church toward change and reform.
- **Key Themes:** Church and community are essential parts of being Christian. The Bible is a foundation for growing in Christ and leading in the Church. Confirmation is a commitment to a life of participation in, reliance on, and service to the Church and its ongoing change.

Other Activities:

- Games for getting to know friends
- Outdoor activities;
- Final Celebration; and
- Small Group sharing and learning;
- Movie;
- Worship on Sunday.

Our Hope for You:

- Grow in friendships,
- Get closer to God and Jesus, and
- Commit to help reform the Church and the world.