

The kick off **CONFIRMATION RETREAT** to the Incarnation Center in Ivoryton, CT is set for this Friday, January 6. The bus leaves promptly at 5 p.m. This retreat is a fun event and a great opportunity for team building as well as for forging and deepening friendships. Please plan on being at church by **4:45 p.m. on Friday** to check in. Cost of retreat is \$70 and permission form/medical release is required. Parents, please check in personally with Alison even if you have already dropped off check and paperwork.

The bus will leave Incarnation following lunch on Saturday. We expect to be back at GFC on Saturday between 2 and 3 p.m.

Some great activities are in store for the group and many of them are outside for significant periods of time. It is January, conditions will be cold and possibly snowy, rainy and/or muddy. PLEASE have your confirmand bring warm clothes and appropriate outerwear.

**Boots & coat are a must!**

winter coat  
gloves/mittens  
hat  
boots  
warm socks  
change of clothes  
toiletries  
sleeping bag or bed linens  
pillow  
Bible  
Flashlight  
Snacks (if there are enough to share with the group of 15)  
\$5-10 for fast food stop on way up Friday eve

**No electronics!**

(Adult leaders will confiscate any cell phones, ipods, etc for return at conclusion of retreat.) Leaders will loan out their cell phones to notify parents about exact pick up time as they approach Westport.

**Retreat Contact Info:**

Jeff Rider 203 227-7068  
Karen Kosinski 203 451-0033  
Incarnation Center 860 767-0848

**Three more important points:**

1. Service of Confirmation Commissioning will take place at 10 am on Sunday, January 8. Confirmand and parents (siblings, too!) should arrive by 9:45 am and be seated together in designated confirmand area toward the front of the Meetinghouse.
2. Each Confirmand and at least one parent are asked to sign up for FIVE shifts during the duration of the Confirmation Program. It is our hope that each family can commit to ushering THREE times during the 5-month program as well as helping out with Fellowship ONE Sunday and providing dinner ONE Tuesday evening for the class. This is really an important and meaningful way for the Confirmands and their families to be involved in the whole Confirmation process. Please bring your calendars on Friday and see Alison for sign up opportunities. After Friday, open slots will be assigned randomly.
3. Confirmation Classes begin on Tuesday, January 10 at 6 p.m. Parents, Jeff would like a few minutes with you at the beginning of this first class. Parents should kindly head to the Meetinghouse while Confirmands should go to Social Hall. Pick up is at 7:30 p.m.