

# Retreat for Confirmation- Age Youth

For all churches in the National Capital Presbytery

February 28-March 1, 2020

at Bishop Claggett Retreat Center

\$125 per student (if reserved by Feb 15)

\$165 per leader (\$100 for RI member churches)

1 leader for every 6 youth required (male and female if a mixed group)

## The 5th Wave

By Rich Tennant

The Reformation began in the 16th century after Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the door of the Palast Church in Wittenberg Germany



Join us for this weekend retreat that will engage confirmation-age youth with:

- Growing into the Reformed Christian Faith
- Living by Grace in the Reformed Tradition
- How to be a Lifelong Church Member and Bible Lover

We'll do this through three interactive, hands-on workshops, small groups, prayer, and worship.

Our leader will be Matt Taylor, who wowed us as he subbed in at the last minute at our last confirmation retreat!

To reserve places for your youth, contact Yvonne McKinney at [ymckinney@reformedinstitute.org](mailto:ymckinney@reformedinstitute.org) or call 703-232-5303



**Leader: MATTHEW D. TAYLOR**

Protestant Scholar, The Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies in Baltimore; Ph.D. (Islam and Christianity) Georgetown University; M.A. (Theology) Fuller Theological Seminary; Ruling elder, Georgetown Presbyterian Church

**“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 Worship on Sunday morning
- Small Group sharing and learning;
- Movie

**Our Hope for You:**

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