



CONFIRMATION – May 31, 2009

Top Row L to R – Rev. John and Mentors: Rick Ayers, Art Williams, Mary Runkle, Lois Ritter and Bill Cashman. Bottom Row L to R – Jonneke Dundore and Confirmands: Jeff Dundore, Kevin MacKinnon, Reed Walter, Chelsey Wirth and Clayton Pirtle.

Our Thanks go out to Jim Morrow, Hunter's Studio, 46 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg for the complimentary Confirmation Pictures.



Meet our Confirmands & The Mentoring Experience... Comments and insights from our 2009 Confirmation mentors:

Jeff Dundore, a ninth grade student at MASH, participates in Marching Band and Chorus activities at school and sings in our Youth Choir. He also participates in Sunday School, Youth Group, and serves as an acolyte. Jeff enjoys soccer, computer and video games, and always looks forward to attending camp at Hartman Center in the summer. One of his aspirations is to learn to play electric guitar well enough to join the pit band at Music and Drama Camp. Jeff learned some interesting things while visiting other places of worship, and enjoyed the time he spent with his mentor, Rick Ayers.

"In general, I found the experience of being mentor to be extremely rewarding and enriching. Although it was our charge to help these young people to grow in their spiritual lives, they in fact helped us to grow in many ways that they probably did not realize. Mentoring young people is one of the greatest contributions that we can make to the future of our church." Rick Ayers, mentor to Jeff.

Kevin MacKinnon will be in 8th grade at Eagle View Middle School. Currently he is in his 8th season of football for Cumberland Valley School District. Sports keep him very busy during the year as he also plays baseball and basketball. Kevin enjoys playing guitar and riding his bike. He also assists with Vacation Bible School, attends Sunday School, Youth Group and serves as an acolyte. Kevin would like to thank Mr. Williams for a rewarding confirmation experience and for the guitar lessons.

“As a mentor, I certainly learned as much as my confirmand did about both my church and myself, and I made a new friend in the process.” Art Williams

Reed Walter is starting at Cumberland Valley HS this fall where she'll be taking honors classes. She loves science, music, hanging out with her friends and just having fun. She is a bright, bubbly person who is very easy to talk to and has an optimistic outlook on life and the world around her. She loves to be outside and is very athletic playing field hockey and lacrosse.

“When Jonne called me to do this, I said yes, hung up the phone and banged my head against the wall wondering why I said yes! However, looking back on the experience, I am so glad that I did it. It was very interesting to learn about different faiths as well as our own. It was fun to get to know Reed, the other kids and their mentors. Even though I missed out on some things, it was a great experience. I loved doing my timeline...made me think about my past and those things that shaped my faith.” Mary Runkle, mentor to Reed.

Chelsey Wirth is 16, learning to drive and a junior at MASH. She is an excellent student and active in Marching Band and Percussion at school. At St Paul's, she is working on getting to know new people, singing in Youth Choir and active in Hand Chime Choir and Youth Group. She, along with Katelyn Chamberlin, is on the Penn Central Conference Youth Ministry Team. Chelsey was very interested in the various religions and churches we visited as a confirmation class and enjoyed taking part in discussions and offering insightful questions during the presentations.

“I had a wonderful experience as Chelsey's mentor. She brought so much insight and thought-provoking discussion to our sessions. I always felt enriched after our times together. I know that Chelsey will be a great asset to our community at St Paul's.” Lois Ritter, mentor to Chelsey.

Clayton Pirtle is an active, energetic young man who loves all sports and activities. While in 8th grade, he played Football, Basketball and Baseball. He also skis at Ski Roundtop. He plays the tuba and was on the Audio Visual team at Eagle View Middle School. Clayton has a sister (Beth) who is a Junior at Cumberland Valley. He has 2 dogs (Jinx, a 4 year old German Shepherd mix and Jack, a 4 month old terrier mix puppy), a cat (Soxy), and fish (who are big enough to catch and fillet (no no, we really wouldn't do that)), round out his menagerie. Clayton has attended Hartman Center Camps for 5 years and loves them! He was baptized at St. Paul's, enjoys Sunday School, Youth Group and is an acolyte when requested. He enjoyed the confirmation experience, his excellent mentor, Bill Cashman, and looks forward to continuing his faith journey at St. Paul's as he enters 9th grade.

“I have had the fortune to be a mentor three times, each to an outstanding young man from our youth congregation. My favorite part of the mentoring process is getting to know a new friend. Through the process I also learn a little more about my faith and my church. It is amazing to watch these young folks grow and learn and explore their beliefs and faith. Like the Nike ad say: Just do It!! A little scary at first but it all works in the end.” Bill Cashman, mentor to Clayton.