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What is a "Confirmation Mentor"?

Dearest ,

A CONFIRMATION MENTOR is an adult member of the congregation who commits to 'walking with' one of our young people through their confirmation process and beyond.

A Confirmation Mentor strives to be an older friend and support to the confirmand throughout their spiritual formation -not just up to the day of Confirmation, but beyond as well.

This commitment is not about a 'fixed' program and mentors needn't be 'super-Christians'. Rather, it is about developing an ongoing relationship cross-generationally –not only for the confirmand &/or mentor's benefit, but for the whole congregation as well.

The youth themselves will be given 'homework' to address with their mentors (mostly just surveying the adult about their own background in the church), but the initial 'formal' aspects of the mentors' commitment will be rather few:

Schedule a time to meet with the Confirmand so they can complete their 'homework'.

Make it a point to get to know the youth a little (this can happen during worship, church events &/or as specifically-scheduled).

Attend Confirmation Sunday Breakfast & Worship at the completion of your mentee's confirmation process.

SOME ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS:

Covenant to pray daily for the confirmand and their family during your own devotional time.

Take the Confirmand out to dinner or lunch 1/month or 1/quarter (whatever works for everyone's schedules).

Write notes of encouragement and support for both their spiritual development as well as their daily lives (school, extra-curricular activities, etc.).

Attend the occasional event/program that the confirmand is involved in (recitals, athletic meets, plays and the like).

Check-in with the confirmand's family/responsible adults from time to time (in order to see how to be a blessing to the youth and to give direction to your prayers on their behalf).

Make it a point to seek-out the confirmand at church events: sit with their family on occasion, introduce the young person to other members of the congregation that they may not have met before, etc.

Advocate for the needs of our young people by communicating with them and then, in-turn, addressing those needs with Consistory, Committees, the Pastor and staff.

Attend Confirmation Sessions with Pastor Will (on the 4th Sunday night of each month 6-8PM).

Participate as a chaperone when Confirmands have lock-ins/retreats/work-projects.

One thing to remember throughout the relationship is to be in communication with the Pastor and Confirmation Teachers about what the youth are learning and how they are faring in their spiritual formation. More importantly, we want the Mentors to be sure to communicate with the Confirmands' parents/responsible adult (s). It is vital that we ensure respectability and safety for everyone.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me so we can discuss them.

THANKS SO MUCH &, AS ALWAYS, I AM & REMAIN...

All Peace, Love & Blessings;
Your brother & servant in Christ-Jesus,

-will-

(Will Stuart, pastor)

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