



Disciples  
for  
Christ

**2023 - 2024**

## **What Is The Mentor Program?**

The Mentor Program of Zion Lutheran Church is one part of the Confirmation program.

In the fall of 10<sup>th</sup> grade, each confirmand selects a mentor – an adult member of the congregation who is NOT a relative.

In September, confirmands and mentors begin meeting once a month as a large group and the mentor and disciple meet at least once a month.

The mentor program continues through 10<sup>th</sup> grade and is optional for grades 11-12.

## **What Is The Purpose Of The Program?**

The Mentor Program has been designed to enrich the confirmation experience by helping students to:

- Develop a supportive relationship with an adult member of Zion or of the community who is not a relative.
- Discover opportunities for involvement within the congregation that might be otherwise overlooked.
- Provide opportunities for interaction with other confirmands.
- Develop a sense of ownership of the life and mission of Zion Lutheran.
- Grow in their faith along with the mentors.
- Build life-long relationship

## **What Characteristics Should A Mentor Have?**

A mentor should be someone who:

- Enjoys youth.
- Takes young people seriously and is comfortable letting them progress at their own speed.
- Is willing to take time to listen.
- Is caring and supportive.
- Is mature and trustworthy.
- Is confidential.

## **How Do I Select A Mentor?**

Think of someone who is:

- An active member of the congregation or a non-member who is willing to spend time in this congregation.
- Over the age of 18.
- Not related to you.
- A good example of a Christian life-style.

Examples may include someone who was one of your Sunday school teachers, a friend of your family, or someone else who meets the requirements and with whom you would like to work.

If you need some suggested names to consider, ask one of the pastoral staff.

When you are ready to ask someone to be your mentor, give that person a copy of this brochure to read.

When someone has agreed to be your mentor, call the church office with their name.

## **What Is A Mentor?**

In the early Christian Church a new convert to the faith often had a "MENTOR", who was a more experienced Christian.

This person took the new Christian under his/her wing and assisted him/her in faith growth.

- The mentor is older than the learner. Although that sounds simple, significant things happen when two generations are together.
- The mentor is dedicated to the subject, in this case the Christian faith. The sense of dedication and purpose is one of the things that makes the mentor attractive to the learner.

## **What Is Expected Of A Mentor?**

Each mentor makes at least a one-year commitment to work with one confirmand. The mentor program is optional in grades 11-12. During that time, the mentor:

- Has an informal get together with their confirmand.
- Meets once each month with other confirmands and mentors for group activities and projects.
- Attends the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) service.