

Our Savior's Confirmation Program

The Mentoring Unit: Faith is caught rather than taught.

An Introduction

GOALS:

- Helping young people to relate their faith to everyday life;
- Getting to know an adult member in whom they see faith being lived out;
- Providing an opportunity for each young person to share his/her faith with an adult on a personal basis;
- Encouraging the young person to remain active in the life of Our Savior's Lutheran Church family.

MENTORS ARE ASKED TO BE:

- Someone 21 years or older and Lutheran;
- Someone other than the student's parent;
- The same gender as the student;
- Someone other than a member of OSLC's staff;
- A mentor to only one young person;
- Willing to meet 8 times to talk for about 30-60 minutes.

MENTORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO:

- Pray together and for each other. Prayer is powerful;
- Foster knowledge and understanding of God's Word;
- Grow in our ability to tell our "faith story". Faith is a gift.

1. Workbooks are available immediately. Names of the students are placed on their workbook.
2. These workbooks can be used as a tool to help in guiding the conversation. Write some responses on the worksheet (lesson) but don't limit yourselves. Think of the lessons as evidence of the conversation that takes place.
3. Please complete one worksheet (lesson) per meeting. This allows for the conversation to sink in and for you to have time to think and ponder what was said. Complete the conversation and worksheets the way that best fits you and your youth and your schedule.
4. The questions are not all easy questions. They are not typical yes or no questions. They may dig into real life issues such as television, family, peers, drugs and alcohol. The open communication that is needed for this may take time to establish. It may take the adult sharing his/her take on the situation or talking about the questions for the young person to open up. Be patient. Confidentiality is a must during all sharing (except when a life is at stake). This should be respected from both sides, mentor and student.
5. If questions arise from either mentor or student, church staff is available to help in any way. This should be a positive experience for both the student and the mentor.
6. The mentor and student should meet in a public place. This is for safety reasons. Also, people typically share more readily when they are doing something else, for example eating, driving, etc. Be creative and have fun with this relationship that is being built or strengthened.
7. Please make it a habit to ask the student you are mentoring if he/she is all caught up on confirmation worksheets, sermon notes, etc. Offer to help catch him/her up on requirements if you are able.
8. During Advent and Lent, students and mentors are encouraged to attend the worship service on Wednesday evenings and meet together following worship for discussion. If the mentor is unable to attend worship and/or the time together, we will have 2-3 kids meet together.

*"We loved you so much that we gave you not only God's Good News
but our own lives, too." 1 Thessalonians 2:8*