

Confirmation Mentor Information – 2022-23



What is mentorship?

Mentorship is an opportunity for each student to build a friendship with another adult Christian in the congregation. When training for an occupation, you often work with someone with more experience, to learn from their life and wisdom. Confirmands are “in training” to become adult Christians, so it makes sense for them to work with someone who knows what it’s like to live as a Christian each day. Together, pairs will discuss various faith topics with the goal of helping students to grow in faith and in understanding of their faith.

What will mentors and students do together?

Our study topic for this year is our Lutheran faith. Mentors and students will meet on scheduled “Mentor Nights” during the confirmation year. These will be held five times on Wednesdays, instead of regular class time and will begin with a meal followed by a large group activity or program and conclude with some intentional one-on-one time. All mentors are asked to be present during each of these gatherings. Mentor pairs will also choose a service project to do together during the year as well as other intentional times of connecting as they are able and following OSLC Safe Church policies. During Lent students will engage in a weekly Bible study following the midweek worship services. Mentors are welcome and encouraged to worship and attend the Bible study with their youth each week.

How long will you be paired up?

The program is designed for mentors to walk alongside you for the entire 2 ½ Year program.

Who can be your mentor?

Your mentor must be:

- An active member of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
- 25 Years old or older and not be related to the student
- Submit to a background check in accordance with our Safe Church Policy
- Able to be available to the student as needs arise and attending the Mentor Nights.

How do I get a mentor?

That’s the fun part – you choose one on your own. To start, think about people at church you’ve always liked or had something in common with. Think of someone who you’d like to spend a little time with. When you have an idea, please communicate that to Pastor Tony for approval. Each mentor may only have one student, so make sure to ask early and ask them if they’ve been asked by someone else.

What are the Safe Church expectations?

The mentor/student relationship is tremendous gift to both participants. The conversations and connections you make are priceless. Our expectation is that your meetings happen at the church during mentor nights AND any meetings or activities away from OSLC you must connect with another mentor/student pair.

I've decided who I want to be my mentor, so now what?

**Call them or talk to them when you see them at church or around town.
You can say something like this:**

Hi, my name is _____. I'm a confirmation student at Our Savior's. We're doing a special mentorship program, where I can work with an adult to help me learn and grow in faith. I was wondering if you'd be willing to be my mentor?

If they say yes or want more information, say...

- A mentor shares his/her beliefs and faith experiences, while working with a student and helping them realize what they believe. A mentor isn't a confirmation teacher – the only real expertise a mentor needs is knowing about his/her own life.
- We'll be meeting generally one Wednesday a month (see schedule). The first time we'll meet as a large group of mentors and students is on October 12, 2022.
- We'll be working through different activities and a other assignments about our faith and the church together – everything's provided.
- We'll be doing one service project together.
- Connect with Pastor Tony if you want to ask any other questions.

What if they say no?

Most importantly, don't take it personally. They have a good reason for not being able to be your mentor this year. Instead of feeling bad, just think of another person who might also be a great mentor for you. Talk to Pastor Tony if you need other ideas. But finding a mentor will probably be easier than you think it'll be. 😊

Good luck in your mentor search!

**Please find a mentor by October 12
(though the sooner the better)**