

Mentor Expectations

A Confirmation Mentor should:

- Be an individual who is committed to a growing personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
- Be committed to spending a minimum of one hour each week, beginning the first week of the class (actual meeting time and place arranged by Mentor & Confirmand)
- Be committed to praying regularly for their Confirmand.
- Be willing to build a loving relationship with an adolescent.
- Be available to attend the Confirmation Class Retreat #1 on January 6th-7th, Mentor Training Session (during Confirmation Class Retreat #1), Mentor Meeting (March 9th, 6-7 p.m.), Class Party #2 (March 3rd), Confirmation Celebration Brunch (April 30th).
- Be willing to submit to a full background check for any abuse or criminal history. This is required for ALL adults who work with children at First Presbyterian Church and is processed with strict confidentiality.

In order to support them in this process each mentor will be provided:

- A training session on Mentoring (during Confirmation Class Retreat #1).
- An outline of the class schedule.
- A commitment by the Confirmation instructors to lift you up in prayer and to be available to address any issues that may arise.

Choosing a Mentor

Things to keep in mind when choosing a mentor:

College student or adult in the church? First, we feel that this is an individual family choice. We want to give you as much information as possible so you can make an informed decision, but ultimately each student is unique which means each student's faith is unique and that should be taken into consideration as your family discusses possible mentors. So here are some things to keep in mind while making a decision...

The more relationships students have with people who are walking with Christ, the more likely it is that students will continue to walk with Christ through all circumstances of life. Therefore, if your student has a relationship with a Small Group or CONNECT leader already, an adult would add another person into their life who is walking with Christ. Also, we discourage choosing a family member as a mentor for the same reason.

We highly encourage you to choose a mentor who is a member of or regularly attends First Presbyterian because one of the purposes of the class is to prepare them to be members here. There occasionally are exceptions to this so please run them by Davin if you are considering this possibility.

College students have very busy schedules, especially if they are already committed as leaders to youth ministry here. They also don't start school until after the first retreat (the one that mentors are supposed to go to) which makes it likely they may not be able to

come. Some live close by and are willing to sacrifice part of their Christmas break to participate, but others aren't able to.

We also should say that there are always a handful of mentors missing from the first retreat (college & non-college) and the retreat is designed to accommodate that. We aren't saying not to choose a mentor just because he/she wouldn't be able to be at the first retreat. We just wanted you to know up front that it may be the case.

Ultimately, what is most important is that the adult is passionate about their relationship with Christ and the Confirmand.