CONFIRMATION MENTORS

(Give this page to your mentor)

WHAT IS A MENTOR?

Congratulations! You have been selected as a role model of faith and will embark on one of the most important callings this year to be a confirmation mentor! A mentor is someone, usually older and wiser, who speaks into their mentee's life and faith in Christ (think of the Apostle Paul and his mentorship of Timothy). Research shows that consistantly spending time with a trusted adult and engaging in faith conversations significantly impacts the spiritual growth of our youth. This is why at First Covenant we want our confirmation students to connect regularly with a mentor during their confirmation journey and dig into God's word together. We desire to see our students develop a faith that will stick with them long after they graduate high school, and their relationships with people like you who talk about Jesus with them now are vital to seeing that vision happen!

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF CONFIRMATION MENTORS?

1. **MEET WEEKLY WITH YOUR STUDENT**
    - Starting the week of Oct 3, start sitting down once a week with the student to read through and discuss the bible passage together. An outline of everything you need for your connection will be provided in advance via email. Commitments are for at least 1 school year, with the option to opt in for the student's 2nd year of confirmation.
    - Plan a time that works for the both of you! If you know a scheduling conflict is coming, plan to meet at a different day or time. If you fall behind, plan to meet for a longer period of time or a second day to catch up. You have the freedom to do what you need to in order to stay on track.
    - Avoid a "let's run through this quick" mindset. Meet somewhere that gives you space to focus on the conversation well. Perhaps plan on meeting at McDonalds for ice cream or coffee at Caribou where you can have dedicated time together. Plus, it's always fun to meet up for a treat!
    - Being a mentor doesn't mean you have all the answers about the bible and faith. It's okay to say "I don't know" to questions. Be open to learning together with the student! If a question comes up, write them down and do some research on it together. If you're still looking for help, send Pastor Mike an email with your questions and he'll be happy to help!
    - More direct training will be coming from Pastor Mike soon!

2. **HELP YOUR STUDENT COMPLETE THEIR PROJECT**
    - Each year students are expected to complete a project that allows them to reflect more deeply about the personal faith stories of those around them, and pursue an experience where students will extend God's mercy and justice in our world.
    - As a mentor, we ask that you work with them to help them stay on track with completing the project, and sometimes working on the project together with them can lead to some great conversations and shared experiences! More details about this year's project will be provided early on during the school year.

3. **JOIN US FOR CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**
    - If you are able and this is your student's 2nd year of confirmation, plan to join us on May 22, 2022 to celebrate with your student as they are confirmed before the congregation! Family and mentors will be invited to lay hands over them for prayer during the service. More details will be made available as we get closer.

Our church policy requires that all of our mentors (no matter their relationship with the student) will be required to go through a church background check (cost is covered by First Covenant Church). You will receive an email to begin this process at the beginning of the year. If you have any questions at any time, don't hesitate to contact Pastor Mike Bechtold at mike@redwingfirstcov.org or by calling the church office at 651-388-2385.