

2016-2017

7th Grade

Mentor Book

Name: _____

You Are My Disciples

Welcome!! This booklet is meant to be completed with your mentor in correlation with confirmation at Bethel Lutheran. You choose your mentor, it should be a trusted adult who is not a relative, who you admire, and who you see living an active, vibrant faith. You will have the same mentor for the three years of confirmation. This booklet is designed to facilitate conversation and help you both learn about aspects of your faith life. Here's what is expected of you:

Expectations of Mentors

*Attend future mentor meetings at the church – **Wednesday, October 12th, 7:30 pm**

* Meet with your student at least three times during their 7th grade year to complete the three modules and attend the mentor event on October 12th.

*Be the adult in the relationship – if you have not heard from the student - check in with him or her.

*Research for the Baptism Module.

*Realize that the student has picked you as an important, trusted and admired Christian adult. Please, take that seriously. If you can, attend their extra-curricular events at school, write them a letter or postcard to encourage them (7th grade is not an easy time), take them out for ice cream, pray for them, etc.

Expectations of students

*Ask a trusted and admired Christian adult (not a relative) to be your mentor.

*Meet with your mentor at least three times during your 7th grade year to complete the three modules and attend the mentor event on **October 12th at 7:30 pm**.

*Call to set up the three times to meet.

*Research for the Baptism Module.

*Realize that your mentor may be unsure how to be comfortable with a junior high youth. Greet them when you see them, smile and wave. Keep your mentor in your prayers.

*Return your completed mentor booklets to the pastors **by April 15, 2017**.

There are three “modules”—conversation guides and short projects, to complete in 7th grade. They are listed below with a short description of each step. There could be some prep involved with each, so read this overview first before you dive in.

Modules – 7th Grade Year

1. Getting To Know You

*A short interview of questions about likes, dislikes, matters of faith

2. Baptism: God's Claim On Us

*For this exercise, you will need to do some pre-work before your time together. Do some research about what your baptism was like: bring photos and stories to share.

*You will need an ELW, that's the red book we use in worship. You can borrow one from the church pew; just make sure to return it. ☺

*This module is meant to fit with your mentor event, it may be helpful to complete this before or right after your time together on Oct. 12th.

3. Worship

○ Attend three worship services together

○ Discuss the variety of worship services at Bethel. The “Gathering” is generally when the welcome to worship; this could involve prayers, a confession and hymn singing. The “word” section of the service begins usually when someone reads from the Bible. This is

the learning section. The “Meal” we celebrate is communion, the sacrament which binds us together. This could be prayers, reciting a creed, passing the peace, etc. Even if there is not communion, are there other elements after you learn something before the “sending”?

- Study the sanctuary of the church and learn about its symbols.
- Discuss the seasons of the church year.
- Spend time sharing about your worship and church-going life together.

We appreciate you! Thank you for your willingness to share and learn together. May God bless your conversations.

➔MODULE ONE – GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1) Full Name
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 2) Six words that describe me pretty well include:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 3) My favorite food
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 4) One of my favorite places to go:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 5) If I want to relax, I:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 6) A person I enjoy spending time with
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 7) Something I like about my church:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 8) Something I like about myself:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 9) Something I like about the age I am:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____

“And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.” 1 John 3:23-24

- 10) One of the best days of my life was:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 11) If I could travel anywhere in the world (all expenses paid), I would go:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
I would bring _____ with me (name a person):
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 12) So far, on life's journey, one of the biggest challenges I've had to face was:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 13) Living the Christian life can be a challenge because:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 14) One question I have about God is:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 15) Name someone you trust:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 16) To trust someone is to:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 17) Have you always been a churchgoer?
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 18) If not, how did you get involved in a church:
Mentor: _____
Student: _____

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

19) What do you hope will happen during this time?

Mentor: _____

Student: _____

20) What are you worried about regarding this process?

Mentor: _____

Student: _____

Close your time with each of you saying a short prayer asking God to be with you in the confirmation journey and thanking God for your partner in this process.

You may use the following prayer if you are uncomfortable with spontaneous prayer:

Dear God, we ask that the Holy Spirit would guide and direct our relationship. Help us develop a relationship that is grounded in you. Thank you for this time together. Be with us each day, at school, at play, at home, at work. Keep us safe until we come together again. Amen.

You may also use the prayer phrases at the back of this book to complete a prayer.

➔MODULE TWO – BAPTISM: GOD’S CLAIM ON US

(Our Call to Discipleship)

IMPORTANT: For this module, both the student and the mentor will need to do some research before the meeting:

- ➔Bring pictures
- ➔Find out who was present: aunts, uncles, friends, siblings, cousins, godparents, grandparents....
- ➔Where was the baptism held?
- ➔Do you still have the candle, towel, and certificate that were presented to you?
- ➔Did your family celebrate afterwards?

1) Tell the story of your baptism;

Mentor: _____

Student: _____

2) What happens at a baptism? Refer to page 227 in the ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal) for more insight.

Mentor: _____

Student: _____

3) THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (From “The Small Catechism by Martin Luther) – Read together.

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism is not water only, but it is water used together with God’s Word and by his command.

WHAT IS THE WORD?

In Matthew 28 our Lord Jesus Christ says, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

WHAT BENEFITS DOES GOD GIVE IN BAPTISM?

In Baptism, God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what he has promised.

WHAT IS GOD’S PROMISE?

In Mark 16, our Lord Jesus Christ says, “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

HOW CAN WATER DO SUCH GREAT THINGS?

It is not water that does these things, but God's Word with the water and our trust in this Word. Water by itself is only water, but with the Word of God, it is life-giving water, which by grace gives the new birth through the Holy Spirit. St. Paul writes in Titus 3, "He saved us...in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life. The saying is sure."

WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN FOR DAILY LIVING?

It means that our sinful self, with all its evil deeds and desires, should be drowned through daily repentance: and that day after day a new self should arise to live with God in righteousness and purity forever. St. Paul writes in Romans 6, "We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."

What gifts are we given in baptism?

What calling are we given in baptism?

Close your time with each of you saying a short prayer asking God to be with you in the confirmation journey and thanking God for your partner in this process.

You may use the following prayer if you are uncomfortable with spontaneous prayer:

Dear God, we ask that the Holy Spirit would guide and direct our relationship. Help us develop a relationship that is grounded in you. Thank you for this time together. Be with us each day, at school, at play, at home, at work. Keep us safe until we come together again. Amen.

You may also use the prayer phrases at the back of this book to complete a prayer.

➔MODULE THREE – WORSHIP

1) Attend three worship services together. Discuss your impressions. It may be helpful to attend different worship services and styles. What questions, thoughts do you have about what was said and done?

What do you think the purpose of worship is?

What was the message/theme of the first service you attended together?

What was the message/theme of the second service you attended together?

What was the message/theme of the third service you attended together?

In what ways does worship affect your day-to-day life?

In what ways does worship affect your relationship with Jesus?

2) At Bethel, we have three kinds of worship services. Our 9:00 am worship service in the sanctuary is traditional. Our 11:00 am worship service is 'Come As You Are'. Wednesdays at 6:45 pm, we worship camp-style. Using a bulletin, identify what takes place within each component.

Gathering at 9 am

Word at 9 am

Meal at 9 am

Sending at 9 am

Gathering at 11 am

Word at 11 am

Meal at 11 am

Sending at 11 am

Gathering on Wednesday

Word on Wednesday

Meal on Wednesday

Sending at Wednesday

What are the similarities/differences in the three worship services?

Which kind of worship do you enjoy the most? What is it about that worship that makes the difference for you?

What would a perfect worship space look like and feel like to you?

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:20

3) Study the sanctuary of your church. Identify as many Christian symbols as you can and discuss what significance they hold in the worship life of the congregation.

4) Below are the seasons of the church year.

ADVENT- What happens in advent?

How do you prepare for the Christmas season?

How does the church prepare?

CHRISTMAS- How long does the Christmas season (different from Advent) last?

What biblical events are included in the Christmas season?

What Christmas traditions do you have?

What Christmas traditions does the church have?

EPIPHANY- What happens on Epiphany?

LENT- How long is lent?

What starts the Lenten season?

What happens on each of these days:

- Palm Sunday

- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Holy Saturday

What experiences do you have of Holy Week? How did it impact you?

Why is Good Friday important?

EASTER- What event happens on Easter Sunday?

Why is Easter important?

What traditions do you have on Easter?

PENTECOST- What happens on the day of Pentecost in the Bible? Why is it important?

What does the event of Pentecost signify the beginning of?

5) How long have you attended church?

Student:_____

Mentor:_____

6) What do you enjoy about church? What do you not enjoy about church?

Student:_____

Mentor:_____

- 7) If a friend asked me, "What difference does going to your church make in your life?" I'd say.....
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 8) A) A person at my church who helps me feel welcome is:
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
B) How are you welcomed by that person?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 9) Sometimes I wish my church would....
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 10) One question or concern I have about my church is:
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 11) I think Jesus would say that the purpose for the church is to...
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 12) Something my church might do to improve:
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 14) During worship I feel close to God when:
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 15) A hymn or song that has special meaning for me is...
Student: _____
Mentor: _____

*"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."
1 Corinthians 12:27*

Close your time with each of you saying a short prayer asking God to be with you in the confirmation journey and thanking God for your partner in this process.

You may use the following prayer if you are uncomfortable with spontaneous prayer:

Dear God, we ask that the Holy Spirit would guide and direct our relationship. Help us develop a relationship that is grounded in you. Thank you for this time together. Be with us each day, at school, at play, at home, at work. Keep us safe until we come together again. Amen.

You may also use the prayer phrases at the back of this book to complete a prayer.

THE END

Congratulations on completing this mentor booklet for the 7th grade year! Thank you to both of you for your time and energy in beginning this very important relationship. Be sure to thank each other for the time you had together, and for the ways each of you were gifted by the other's presence.

Students: Your final task is to return only your booklet to the pastors or youth director at the church by April 15th. Please remember to put your name on the cover!

REFLECTIONS...

Use the following words and phrases to start a prayer. You can make it as long or as short as you would like; as elaborate or as simple as you would like. Hopefully these words will help you when you're stuck!

Choose one word from the 'Attributes of God' column, the next word from the 'Images of God' column, and then a phrase from the 'Personal Feelings' column.

Attributes of God:

Awesome
Dear
Eternal
Loving
Holy
Tender
Healing
Heavenly
Understanding
All-knowing
Precious
Everlasting
Saving
Forgiving
Caring
Wise

Images of God:

Teacher
Shepherd
Counselor
Father
Mother
Parent
Savior
Creator
Life giver
God
Jesus
Abba
Yahweh
Friend
King
Light of the World

Personal Feelings:

I am hoping...	I am humbled...	I am angry...
I am fearful...	I am confused...	I am thankful...
I am wondering...	I am embarrassed...	I am sorry...
I am awed...	I am sad...	I am hurt...
I am joyful...	I am curious...	I am eager...
I am honored...		