

MENTORING AT SOLOMON

Faith Webbing & Outcome-Based Youth Ministry
For Parents

What is My Responsibility?

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

1. What faith practices in your home mirror this verse?
2. Which disciplines are easy for your family to practice? Which are more difficult? Why?

“Children’s flight patterns are mostly set by age 12.” (Pecuch, 2013)

1. What would you say is your family’s/child’s “flight pattern”? Sports, school, friends, church? Who are the key players in determining this “flight pattern”?
2. What are some of the difficulties you find in your family’s schedule or “flight pattern”? What are the joys?
3. In what ways could this pattern be redirected to Christ?

Youth (and parents too!) want to spend time with a community that they are close with and that they relate to – friends, family, organized groups, etc.

1. Would you consider Solomon one of those areas? Why or why not?
2. What can be done to grow your church community into a more comfortable, welcoming place for you and your children?
3. How can groups of people like this one aid in that growth?

Faith Webbing

To wrap our children, youth, and congregation members in a web of faith so loving and caring that they will always want to be a part of a local congregation.

- “Faith Webs”: a deep, purposeful intergenerational approach to connecting ourselves to faith through a congregation. Its intent is to fill relationship voids in our lives with members from our local congregation. Examples: grandparents, older sibling, younger sibling, parent, aunt, uncle.
 - o Faith Webs, though intended for young people, can be used at all ages in the congregation to inspire further relationship building, connection, and unity
- Complete your Faith Web: Use the sheet attached to fill in your faith web with people inside and outside of the congregation whose faith you admire.
 - o Sections: Parent Age, Peers, High School/College Age, “Little People” (Elementary Age)
 - o List at least 6 in each category – more if you’d like!
 - o Take a good look at your faith web. What sections are overflowing with people? What sections are missing or lacking people?

Your children will be completing their faith webs during this time as well. If they have already chosen a mentor, they will add that person to their web and evaluate the ways that they contribute to their faith walk. If they have not chosen a mentor, they will evaluate the voids / sparse areas in their sections and choose a mentor from that age group.

1. Is anyone surprised by their faith webs? In what ways?
2. How does your faith web reflect your life at Solomon?

Be sure to take a look at your child’s Faith Web. Being aware of theirs and others’ webs can help you become **Relationship Architects**.

- Help your child fill their Faith Web voids and connect them to God’s people. *Example:* are they missing grandparent age people? Bring them to quilting, introduce them to choir members, find an older member that shares an interest that they do. Are they missing younger people? Bring them early on Sundays to greet the kids, encourage them to volunteer at family events, connect them with a child to pray for and encourage.
 - Building your child’s Faith Web may also expand yours!
1. How do you see this act of “Faith Webbing” and being a “Relationship Architect” benefitting your child? How do you see it benefitting our Solomon community?
 2. What ways can you as a parent and member become involved in this movement?

Outcome-Based Youth Ministry

Building Faith Skills in our young people that will equip youth with the necessary tools to live out their personal calling in life.

1. What aspects of faith do you want to build into your child during their time as members of our congregation?
2. What faith skills do our young people need to acquire in order to be prepared for a life of service and devotion to Jesus?

Mentoring will be focusing on four sections of Faith Skills.

SECTION ONE: The Gospel. Understanding the basic message of the Gospel and how to share it in a way that is relatable and simple.

SECTION TWO: Spiritual Disciplines. Building spiritual disciplines into their lives that will carry them into adulthood.

SECTION THREE: Personal Enhancement and People Skills. We'll focus on relationships in three areas; their relationship with themselves (i.e. developing a biblical self-esteem, personal standards, the importance of developing a personal web of faith), their relationships with others (i.e. building relationship skills, spending time with people the way Jesus did), and their relationship with the living triune God.

SECTION FOUR: Ministry Skills and Spiritual Gifts. We'll explore our spiritual gifts and use them to develop ministry skills. All of us will be able to open or close a meeting in prayer, be able to lead a table grace, be able to give devotions before a meeting or facilitate a basic Bible Study. We'll use methods that ease young people into acquiring such ministry skills, using their spiritual gifts.

1. Which of these sections do you as a parent feel confident in? Which do you feel you need growth in? Why?
2. In what ways can you work on these sections with your child?
3. How do you feel our Solomon community could grow in these areas?

MENTORING LOGISTICS

2016-17

Schedule

November 5 th	Kick-Off @ Toledo Walleye
January 29 th	Mentoring #1 5:30-7:30pm
March 19 th	Mentoring #2 5:30-7:30pm
April 30 th	Mentoring #3 5:30-7:30pm
July 16 th	Mentoring #4 5:30-7:30pm
<i>July 30th</i>	<i>9th Grade Work Day with Mentors</i>
<i>August 13th</i>	<i>9th Grade Work Day with Mentors</i>
<i>September 17th</i>	<i>9th Grade Work Day with Mentors</i>
October 15th	<i>Faith Celebration</i>

- 9th Graders will create “faith folds” (tri-fold boards) along with their stoles, including things like their faith web, personal mission statement, personal ministry plan, etc. These things will be addressed in Mentoring with the help of their Mentors! They will present them to congregation members & family at the celebration in the gym.

October 29th Confirmation

Service projects will be scheduled as opportunities arise.

Note: I’d love to begin sharing a meal together at scheduled Mentoring times. If you and your family would like to help provide those meals, please let me know!

Your Child & Their Mentor

I will be encouraging mentors and mentees to spend time together / talk outside of our mentoring meetings – always with your permission. Use your discretion as to what they choose to do and when, and become an active part of their mentoring relationship. I will be encouraging mentors to attend sporting events and school activities – help expand your child’s faith web by including their mentors in these things!