

Confirmation Guide and Co-Guide

Ministry Description

Ministry Description:

A Guide is a caring person who loves God, likes kids and is willing to be involved in the Christian growth of young people. Guides commit themselves to learning, interacting, and promoting Christian service with and among the young people in their charge.

By giving of their time, harnessing the power of nonverbal communication (eyes, presence, safe touch), sharing their own personal joys, pain and prayers, and lavishing care and attention on their “carload of kids,” Guides take on the role of *impact adults* in kids’ lives, and help bond youth in their small group into the body of Christ.

Guides work in pairs, generally two adults, and each group will have at least one high school Student Leader.

Guides are responsible for helping create an atmosphere of personal care, support and Christian nurture.

They meet with students weekly to:

- share “highs and lows” (highs and low points of the previous week)
- pray for/with their small group
- lead a discussion surrounding the curriculum that is consistent with the Lutheran tradition (resources and support provided)

Ideally, Guides will commit to a small group for 3 years (from 7th – 9th grades).

Training:

- Initial training and orientation: a Wednesday or Thursday evening in August
- Guide Gatherings: 2-3/year, immediately after Confirmation (7:45-8:30)

Support:

- Minister of Faith Formation (Martin Rathjen)
- Youth & Family Minister (Paul Erdmann)
- Youth Ministry Team

Time Required:

- Initial orientation/training: a Wednesday or Thursday in August, 6:00 – 9:00pm
- Wednesday evenings from Sept. – May, 6:10pm - 7:45pm (approx.)
- Weekly prayer for small group members
- Participation in service projects (3/year, Wednesdays, 5:30pm-7:45pm)
- Annual participation on the Confirmation Fall Retreat is strongly recommended (Usually the second weekend in November).

Qualifications or Special Skills:

- The desire to establish caring relationships with 7th – 9th Grade young people
- The willingness to learn to facilitate a small group discussion
- A person committed to prayer, Scripture and the Christian faith
- The willingness to make this ministry a priority and make the necessary time commitments

Called to care. Sent to serve.

Immanuel Lutheran, Eden Prairie



What Happens at Confirmation?

Wednesday Evenings

6:15pm - 7:45pm

As students arrive (5-10 minutes) Greet students by name and visit with them

Opening – Large Group

Opening Event (25 minutes)

Objectives: 1) Begin with a positive & God-focused evening

2) Release energy and allow for late comers to arrive

3) Begin with worship, prayer and introduce the theme for the evening

- *Singing, Prayer, Trivia/Prizes, Skits, Message, and Announcements*
- *The topic/theme for the night will be introduced by Martin or Paul Erdmann*

Small Group Time

Checking In (10 minutes)

Objective: To welcome and care for young people.

- *Share highs and lows from the week*
- *Prayer concerns are shared with the group*

Prayer (5 minutes)

Objectives: 1) Provide an atmosphere for prayer.

2) Develop comfort and experience in prayer.

- *Modeling the life of prayer*
- *Praying for and with your group*

Learning & Living (30 minutes)

Objectives: 1) Guides will facilitate discussion in their group as guided by the curriculum (Martin or Paul will email a discussion guide out weekly for Guides and Student Leaders), consistent with the Lutheran tradition - tailoring the learning experience to meet the needs of the group.

2) Provide an opportunity for students to process the lesson and apply the learning to their own lives.

Closing (5 minutes)

Objectives: 1) Keep students informed of service opportunities and youth ministry activities.

2) Close with prayer.

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