

First English Lutheran Church Confirmation Small-Group Guide Job Description

Mission of the Congregation

We are People of God who Gather to Worship, Grow in Faith and Give to Others.

Mission of the Learning Ministry Team

As the body of Christ alive in the Spirit, we provide people with opportunities to continually grow in faith and lead lives of worship, service, and witness.

Vision and Mission for the Confirmation Ministry

Walking together with Christ – Going together into the World.

*Strengthen the congregation, the family, and the individual
as to nurture faith, pass on faith, and live well in Christ.*

Purpose

To aid in the spiritual development of youth as disciples of Jesus Christ

- By equipping people for relationships
- With peers, family, congregational members, community members, people in varied cultural settings, and in creation
- That include caring conversations, devotions, ritual and traditions, and acts of service, taking them deeper into faith in Jesus Christ
- In the midst of homes, the congregation, community and all of life

Through

**A balance of relational opportunities for youth, youth and their families,
and cross-generational groups such as...**

1. Training and learning opportunities
2. Utilizing gifts, interests, and talents
3. Developing purposeful leadership
4. Strengthening the home as the primary place for faith formation
5. Faith mentoring for youth
6. Sharing and practicing with traditional and nontraditional faith resources
7. Group building activities and gatherings
8. Small-group discussions about faith and life
9. Camps and retreats
10. Service experiences
11. Visits in homes, school, and community events
12. Ideas and assistance that enhance worship experience
13. Opportunities for celebrating milestones in homes and congregation
14. Ways for youth to participate throughout the life of the congregation

Relationships with FELC Staff and Congregation

Develop and work from a common family and youth vision ("6, 5, 4, 3 Model" to be introduced)

Intentionally affirm, encourage, pray for, and bless one another

Appreciate and affirm one another's gifts

Be open to new ways of seeing and doing things

Arrive on time for meetings, gatherings, and discussions

Prepared in advance to address the issues at hand

Speak well of each other, to build up the body of Christ

Commit to ongoing personal faith growth

Honor each other's individual pace and working style

Qualities Needed

Growing faith in Jesus Christ

Growing understanding of the theology of the cross

Living well in Christ, with God at the center of all aspects of life

Works harmoniously with FELC staff and congregation's theology, vision, and mission

Relational skills that demonstrate comfort with youth, parents, staff and community

Basic counseling, decision making skills

Advocate for youth, families, and their needs in the congregation and community

Expectations of Small-Group Guides

Be an AAA Adult (Authentic, Available, and Affirming) representative of your God, your church, and your faith

Pray for, connect with, and develop relationships with small-group members

Attend educational workshops as scheduled, quarterly

Attend monthly small-group guide meetings with FELC staff

As an example to our youth, regular attendance in worship is expected (Sunday/Wednesday)

Spend time daily in personal faith development

Prepare lessons/discussions in advance

Attendance and participation in one weekend retreat determined by grade

Attendance and leadership in community service events, three or more each year

Attendance and leadership in fellowship activities, three or more each year

Find your own substitute guide if you will miss a Wednesday night (list will be provided)

Time Commitment

- 1) Class time: 8-10 hours a month, 2 hours a week, Wednesday nights
- 2) Prep time: 2-3 hours a month, ½ hour a week
- 3) One outside contact a month per youth, total of 2-4 hours a month
- 4) One weekend retreat per year, per grade serving
- 5) Three or more service and three or more fellowship activities per year

Congregation Provides for Benefits for Wellness of Person in this Position

Continuing Education, Support and Networking

Such as...

- Understanding of adolescent development
- Understanding of faith development and youth and family ministry model methods
- Understanding of youth culture and trends
- Understanding of family systems
- Optional coaching with FELC staff.
- All "chaperoned" events are paid for with no out of pocket cost for small-group guides