

Mentorship

Mentorship Presentation
Through **Prezi** online

Mentoring
Toward
daring discipleship

May
2012

The GOAL of Christian mentorship is not so much to transmit knowledge or understanding, but to bring about a recognition of our personal spiritual journey, nature as a child of God, and relationship with God in Christ.

It is to help us realize ourselves as spiritual beings with a life connected with God.

It is *walking with the other*, modeling a way of life, and demonstrating a strength in faith that points toward a counter-cultural life and reality which directs the mentee to the connection with the Divine already within them.



A Prezi
Presentation prepared for
Halton Presbytery 4th at 4:00
that covers much of the
material in this brochure is
available for viewing or download
through PREZI online.

View **Hamilton Conference - Mentoring Disciples**
by **L MacQueen** on Prezi.com or follow the link
below:

<http://prezi.com/ifbnwy2cvk0l/hamilton-conference-mentoring-disciples/>

Prezi is an easy to use online presentation and story-telling editor

<http://prezi.com>

Mentoring Disciples

Lorna MacQueen
Hamilton Conference Minister- Faith Formation for Discipleship
The United Church of Canada

Mentoring Disciples

Mentorship refers to a personal developmental relationship in which a more experienced or more knowledgeable person helps a less experienced or less knowledgeable person...

"Mentoring" is a process that always involves communication and is relationship based, but its precise definition is elusive. One definition of the many that have been proposed, is

'Mentoring is a process for the informal transmission of knowledge, social capital, and the psychosocial support perceived by the recipient as relevant to work, career, or professional development; mentoring entails informal communication, usually face-to-face and during a sustained period of time, between a person who is perceived to have greater relevant knowledge, wisdom, or experience (the mentor) and a person who is perceived to have less (the protégé).'"

available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#)
Wikipedia®



**HAMILTON
CONFERENCE**
The United Church of Canada

Mentoring Disciples



Memory

Our Story

As you look to your memory – what would you identify as the greatest early influence on your faith?

For some of us it will be easier to identify this influence than for others... but many of us will identify a person or persons / family / community.

Few of us will talk about Sunday school lessons, or sermons, but we may talk about the teachers, parental figures, leaders, or friends who offered those lessons, sermons, teachings to us. Even if we talk about memories of 'place' it is usually because it relates us to some important relationships.

Relationship is central. Surprisingly, it is not always a close relationship or even mutual friendship. There is often, however, a characteristic of model, counselor, teacher and friend - where one person of more experience demonstrates and nourishes in the other essential qualities, character and skills of the faith.

We call this Mentorship – a concept based on a Greek mythological figure named Mentor.

Who would those mentors be for you? Who are the people who have both demonstrated and nourished you in the faith?

What qualities did they demonstrate?

Biblical Story – scriptures are full of mentoring relationships

Identify some biblical mentoring relationships.

What qualities did they demonstrate?

Can you relate any of these stories to your own story of faith formation?

What if...

What if... the people in our churches/courts/faith communities ... took seriously the call to be in relationship with one another in ways that would offer the possibility of being mentored (which we all need) and being mentors (which is a part of our call as disciples) to people in the faith?

What if... Faith Formation was understood not as programming (though it might be facilitated through programming) but as mentoring disciples... in other words... both mentoring into discipleship and being disciples that mentor as a part of their call?

What if... our churches were intentionally counter cultural, choosing not to buy into the culture of spiritual consumerism, or instant gratification, but focused on spiritual mentoring and a variety of spiritual practices (including worship/justice/play)?

A few Propositions:

- * **Jesus had a mentoring relationship with his followers.**
- * **There is both intentional and unintentional mentoring.**
- * **Mentorship means 'being the Gospel' / 'the good news of Christ' in the world - 'You may be the only gospel your neighbor ever reads.'**
- * **Community mentorship is also a call for the church.**
- * **Personality Type may influence what mentoring looks like in a disciple's life, but it is a call for everyone who would follow Christ. There are a multitude of ways to participate in mentorship and there is no 'one size fits all' formula.**

What about these propositions opens up new possibility for you?



Mentorship *Intentional* and *Unintentional*:

When unintentional it can take many forms:

It is unintentional - in so far as it is not a part of a program or a *recognized mentorship relationship*, however, it may be intentional in the wider sense of seeking to be in right relationship with others, offering kindness and sharing life.

When intentional it is:

A relationship of mutual respect, in which a trusted individual seeks to accompany another in their exploration of faith and their discipleship walk.

Intentional about spiritual life and growing in faith.

A space that holds the walk of faith as a sacred space.

An opportunity for both in the relationship to pay attention to what is happening in their lives and spirits and how that connects to their faith.

A space that encourages conversation about the experience of God's grace, helping to discern the Spirit's action in our lives and in the world.

A place that gives permission for questions without expecting answers or quick fixes.

A support for those who need orientation to a community and/or its values.

An opportunity to share and learn more about the practices of prayer, meditation, and what living daily as disciples of Jesus might mean for us.

An opportunity to be counter cultural, and engage the 'culture' of the teachings of Jesus, and the Reign of God.

Intention

Questions:

- a. How might I be different in my community/church if I took this seriously?
- b. How might my congregation be different if we were intentional about our mentoring disciples?