

What is Zion's Faith Inkubators Confirmation Ministry?

Zion's Faith Inkubators (FINK) Confirmation Ministry invites Middle School youth (typically 6th-8th grades) to strengthen their relationship in Christ, learn how faith integrates with their own lives, what it means to be joined to others in Christian Community and what it means to be a follower of Christ. The Faith Inkubators ministry strives to do this through three components: *discipleship, fellowship, and service.*

Discipleship — Scheduled Learning sessions present and discuss core teachings of the Christian faith: Baptism, Holy Communion, Lord's Prayer, Apostle's Creed, 10 Commandments, Old Testament, New Testament. These meetings occur from 12:30-2:30pm with lunch provided at 12 noon. The youth meet in a large group for an energetic opening led by Brenda Gunderson and then participate in faith topic presentation by one of the pastors. This section of the session takes about one hour. The youth then gather in smaller groups (about 7-10 participants) to share their highs and lows, and discuss the lesson and how it relate to their every day lives.

Fellowship — Dedicated adult volunteers lead the small groups and help plan social/fellowship and service activities. The purpose of the fellowship activities is to bring the youth closer to each other and the adult small group leaders as well as to just have fun. Activities vary from month to month and may sometimes be by individual small group. There are fellowship activities, such as a volleyball party, corn maze, ice skating, and Zap Zone as well as opportunities like flag-football, bowling, pizza parties, renting movies, and holiday parties.

Service — Each Confirmation student is expected to complete at least 12 hours of service before the end of the 2007-2008 confirmation year. We encourage students to participate in all service projects with the confirmation group. We do service events like raking leaves, Christmas caroling, Souper Bowl of Caring, Lenten suppers and more. There are also many other opportunities within the church to serve like ushering, greeting, acolyting, setting up communion, servicing coffee at fellowship time, VBS, helping in the nursery, library and at congregational meetings.

With these three components, dedicated adult volunteers and committed participation by students and their parents, this program is an important part of faith building that will create memories and reinforce values for a life-time.