

## A Litany of Blessing for Youth and Mentors

Shalom Mennonite Church

November 8, 2015

**Parents:** We acknowledge and celebrate our youth as children of God who are growing physically, intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually.

Like the parents of Jesus, we will continue to watch our children listening to others, and not to us alone. We know there will be times of seeking, questioning, and doubt on their journeys of faith.

We are thankful for this community of faith where these conversations can take place. We bless this special relationship between our children and their mentors.

**Youth:** As young people in this congregation, we are thankful for the church and the opportunities it gives us to grow as Jesus did. We want you to be ready for our questions and insights.

Like Jesus, we want the freedom to test and live out what we've been taught. We are glad to have mentors to walk with us.

**Mentors:** As mentors chosen by the youth, blessed by their parents, and affirmed by the church, we reverently accept our calling to walk alongside the youth.

It is our prayer that we will be worthy of the invitation to join them on their journey. We will accompany them as they experience joy and challenge, and as they search for faith and a meaningful life.

**Congregation:** We are thankful for our youth and their mentors. We affirm our own commitment to make this church a place for all seekers of God.

It is our prayer that we can be a welcoming place for our youth to grow up in the love of God as Jesus did. We are also reminded in this moment of our own search for faith—past, present, and on into the future.

We pray that we might all grow into the likeness of Christ.

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## **Mentor Pairs**

### **7th Grade**

Wil Bartel & Everett Bradley  
Abby Chappell Deckert and Andi Schmidt Andres  
Josué Coy Dick & Don Woodward  
Katie Hatch & Ronda Doman  
Elise Jantz & Hope Graber  
Tessa Preheim & Heidi Huber  
Claire Preheim & Martha Unruh Szambecki  
Luke Schmidt & Mark Andres

### **8th Grade**

Levi Peachey-Stoner & Joe Smucker

### **9th Grade**

Daniel Buller & Aaron Chappell Deckert  
Ada Montano & Beth Burns

### **10th Grade**

Sam Bartel & Gregg Friesen  
Henry Friesen Guhr & Tim Huber  
Kate Szambecki & Kendra Neufeld  
Andi Chappell Deckert & David Kaufman  
Abby Hatch & Melanie Krehbiel

### **11th Grade**

Jennifer Andres & Sarah Kaufman  
Louisa Nickel & Christine Crouse-Dick  
Nadia Montelongo & Sara Friesen Guhr  
Ruben Peachey-Stoner & John Hobbs  
Abby Schmidt & Andrea Yoder Graber

### **12th Grade**

Sam Hatch & Tom Szambecki  
Ben Nickel & Chris Dick  
Aubrey Bartel & Joan Schrock Woodward  
Lydia Chappell Deckert & Cindy Regier

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