

**CERTIFIED RULING ELDER TRAINING**  
**Presbytery of Scioto Valley**

**GUIDELINES FOR MENTORS**

Mentors to the students in the Certified Ruling Elder (CRE) training experience of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley are ordained ministers of Word and Sacrament or Commissioned Ruling Elders. They partner with the student to “cultivate personal, professional and spiritual formation” in the student in preparation for service in ministry. Each student in the CRE class is required to have a mentor. The mentor shall not come from the church where the student is a member or where the student is working. Mentors will be approved, and assigned, by the CRE Task Team from a list of volunteers.

Most of the enrolled students are not currently serving in any type of pastoral capacity. The mentoring process is extremely valuable and, it is the hope of the Task Team that the mentoring relationship shall continue even after students are commissioned and working in the field.

**It is the responsibility of the student to contact his/her mentor to set up meetings. Monthly contact is encouraged.**

If either the mentor or the student feels that a mismatch has occurred, the CRE Task Team should be notified immediately. Some personalities simply do not mesh. This does not infer any inadequacy on either part.

**MENTOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The CRE Task Team requests that mentors:

- Model with the student the kind of openness and caring which should be exhibited in ministry.
- Encourage students to be committed to their own professional, personal, and spiritual growth.
- Are approachable and non-judgmental, listening carefully to the student and making time available when needed.
- Assist the student develop appropriate coping skills.
- Willingly share their own experiences of joy, pain, frustration, humor, doubts, and moments of transcendence in ministry.
- Pray with and for the student.
- Meet with the student on a regular basis. If the mentor has not heard from her/his student for two months, the chair of the CRE Task Team should be contacted.
- The CRE Task Team requests that the mentor pass on to the Team any ideas that might assist them in making the program more effective in the future.