



Mission Statement:

Woven Lives provides opportunities for developing student-mentor relationships that encourage Bethel women and sharpen and expand their effectiveness for the kingdom of God.

Our mission is rooted in Hebrews 10:24-25:

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Program Basics:

Woven Lives is a mentoring program for first-year and second-year female CAS students. It pairs interested students with women from Bethel’s faculty and staff. The program is designed to encourage and support new students through a mentoring relationship that begins mid-October and continues through April. Each mentoring relationship is developed through one-on-one meetings that each pair plans.

Start: Those who would like to participate as a mentee or mentor need to submit an online form located at cas.bethel.edu/bsa/clubs-organizations/student-ministries/woven-lives. After fall break (mid-October), an email is sent to each participant providing the name and contact info of her mentoring partner. A kickoff meeting is held in October to formally celebrate the start of the program and to provide a brief mentoring orientation.

Frequency: One-on-one meetings are typically twice a month.

Meetings: Pairs decide when and where to meet as well as the format of their meetings. Many pairs choose to meet for coffee, a snack, or lunch. Some pairs opt to pray together, discuss a book, go for a walk, or attend chapel together.

Resources: A Moodle site provides participants with ideas and resources. The leadership team also sends participants monthly emails and is always available by email (see list on back).

End: The program concludes with a short celebration at the beginning of May. The mentorship ends at this point unless both the mentor and student choose to continue.

Mentoring Relationship Basics:

Just as each student-mentor pair is unique, so each mentoring relationship is unique and will look different than the next one. However, all mentorships have these basic components:

- **Fun:** Create a positive, relaxed, friendly atmosphere.
- **Conversation:** Talk naturally about life activities: your thoughts, feelings, challenges, joys, stresses, beliefs, and decisions. Listen well and ask questions.
- **Trust:** Be honest and authentic. Keep your word. Protect personal information.
- **Graciousness:** Avoid judgmental remarks. Find ways to affirm. Show care.
- **Insight:** Contribute relevant, practical, godly input at appropriate times.
- **Growth:** Aim for mutual growth in areas of faith and character.

Here are some other ideas and guidelines about mentorships:

- A mentorship is an intentional friendship.
- It is built slowly over time.
- It requires leadership and involvement from both student and mentor.
- It requires confidentiality.
- It requires both humility and boldness.
- It is forward-paying; mentees often become mentors.
- It is not counseling or lecturing.
- It is not a rescue mission, fix-it service, or create-a-clone program.
- It is not a lifelong commitment.

For more information about the Woven Lives program, please visit cas.bethel.edu/bsa/clubs-organizations/student-ministries/woven-lives or contact any of the following program leaders:

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