

Youth Ministry Covenant

First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth

I understand that I am a representative of Jesus Christ, the Christian community, First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth, my family, and myself. In signing this covenant, I agree to live by the following guidelines listed below during any youth activity or event in order to glorify God in all that I do and represent Jesus Christ to others.

- I will be open to the surprising work of God through worship, service, prayer, learning, play, friendship and rest.
- I will live as part of the Christian community, showing respect and attentive love to each person, by:
 - Listening when others are speaking.
 - Speaking positively and affirming others.
 - Actively including others
 - Refraining from gossip, teasing and bullying.
 - Refraining from practical jokes or making jokes at someone else's expense.
 - Respecting the property of others and not taking things that aren't mine.
- I will be responsible for my own behavior and participate fully in all scheduled activities of any event, contributing to the group in positive ways.
- I will respect and obey the authority of all adults present at a youth activity or event. I understand that I am welcome to disagree with things, but I must do so respectfully and without complaining.
- I will honor the group and the importance of the work we are doing by living within the basic behavioral guidelines by:
 - Staying with the group at all times.
 - Respect established physical boundaries by staying in designated spaces.
 - Respecting the need for sleep and being faithful to "lights out."
- I will set appropriate boundaries by not participating in any sexual activity or displays of affection.
- I will avoid actions or attitudes that would disrupt the building of Christian community or the mission that we have been sent to accomplish, including:
 - Bringing, using or buying illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco products or e-cigarettes.
 - Bringing, using or buying fireworks, lighters, knives, firearms or other weapons.
 - Bringing, viewing or buying pornography.
 - Using profanity or complaining.
 - Dressing outside the guidelines of the dress code.
- I understand that my cell phone and other personal electronics are a responsibility and I must use them maturely. I am expected to put these items away during worship, service projects, prayer, and other organized activities and to turn them in if they are requested. There are some purposes for which they should never be used, including:
 - Watching inappropriate videos.
 - Using social media for the purpose of hurting others.
 - Using social media in a way that hurts myself.
 - Creating a group text that excludes others.
 - Playing inappropriate games.
 - Isolating from the group.
- I will strive to leave each place I go a little better than it was before I arrived (my church, mission sites, vans, churches, restaurants, etc). I will also respect the rules of these places.
- I will give any prescription medicine to an appointed adult who will distribute it and supervise me taking it.



- I understand that only movies and video games previously approved by the Youth Ministry Staff may be viewed and played during youth sponsored activities and events.
 - All approved movies will be age- and content-appropriate.
 - All approved video games will be rated Everyone, Everyone 10+, or Teen.
- I understand that only music previously approved by the Youth Ministry Staff can be played in the common spaces. I will not bring an auxiliary cord or speakers to play my own music.
- I will not bring anything extremely valuable or expensive. I am responsible for any lost, stolen, or broken items.

In the unlikely event that I choose to disregard this covenant, I understand that I will be given a verbal warning and expected to correct my behavior. If I bring, use or buy illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, fireworks, pornography, firearms, knives, other weapons *or* if I choose not to correct my behavior after receiving a verbal warning, my parents will be contacted and I may be subject to discipline, including the possibility that I will be sent home prior to the event's end at my parents' expense.

I commit to this covenant.

Youth Participant: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Youth Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: ____/____/____

