



### **CPC High School Youth Mission Trip Covenant 2017**

The youth, leaders, and parents of Central Presbyterian Church High School Youth Mission Trip seek to create a summer mission experience that incorporates guidelines and activities for faith, fellowship, and fun-draising! In order for our experience to be the positive, faith-filled community building opportunity we desire, all participants are expected to abide by the following:

#### **Honoring and Sharing Our Faith:**

- As representatives of Christ, participants will carry themselves in a way that seeks to honor and respect Christ's teachings: showing love and grace to those in our group and to all we meet and serve.
- Youth will commit to learning and growing in faith by attending worship whenever possible and participate in programs (such as helping with Sunday School, volunteering for service projects, etc.) where they might help others learn and grow in faith.

#### **Fun-draising and Supporting Our Mission Together:**

- Youth, Families, and Leaders will develop and participate in raising awareness and funds for the Mission Trip.
- Youth are responsible for participating fundraising events (i.e. Bake Sales, Car Wash, Valentine's Dance, etc.)
- Youth are also required to attend pre-Mission Trip meetings to learn more about the mission work itself as well as get to know the other participants and leaders who will be traveling with them during the week (exceptions may be made on an individual basis – contact Pastor Deborah Huggins to discuss any conflicts)

#### **Joining Others in Fellowship:**

- As we gather together in fellowship to work, worship, and have fun, there are certain guidelines we must follow to ensure the safety and support of all who are with us. These guidelines must be honored and adhered to throughout our Mission Trip as well as any other events and activities related to our CPC gatherings. *If unable to comply with these expectations and guidelines, certain consequential actions (outlined in the subsequent paragraph) will be taken.*

1. ***Respect*** - adult leaders, your peers, and yourself through your words and actions. Use language and behavior that honors who you are and who we all are as God's children. This means you will not bully, harass, or intimidate, through verbal, physical, or electronic communication.
2. ***Take a break*** - put your cell phone or other electronic device away during gatherings and projects, so you might benefit more from the fun and fellowship around you! (Also, on work sites, it's just plain smart to put the cell phone away so as not to risk injuring yourself or others!)
3. ***Dress Accordingly*** - Wear clothing appropriate for the time, place, task, and community – clothing that is too revealing (i.e. undergarments can be seen, etc.) should not to be worn at any point on the trip nor should clothing with inappropriate language or messages. Adult leaders reserve the right to ask youth to change their clothing if inappropriate to the group activity or event.
4. ***Keep personal things personal*** – Respect one another's personal items as well as their privacy especially during activities where there may be sharing and discussion of personal experiences. We all want to feel supported and safe and should extend the same courtesy to others.

**Keeping everyone safe:**

In addition to the above guidelines, we are also requiring you not to engage in any sexual activity and not to use or possess any illegal or inappropriate substances such as alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs, or bring weapons such as knives, fireworks, and firearms as these may all be harmful as well as illegal for you, your peers, and your leaders. **Violation of this guideline is taken very seriously and parents will be contacted to determine along with group leadership whether the youth(s)involved are to be sent home at their own expense .**

**Consequences of our Actions:**

In response to these guidelines and our Covenant with one another, the following consequences will be taken should anyone conduct themselves in a way that disrespects, dishonors, or rejects what we have outlined as a loving, faithful foundation for conduct on our CPC Mission Trip:

1. First Consequence – is that the individual and the entire group will be given a warning and reminded of this covenant by an adult mentor and it will be stated how the particular behavior is not in agreement with the guidelines all have agreed to in this covenant.
2. Second Consequence – the youth(s) or adult(s) who are not upholding the covenant and have already been warned, may be asked to leave the activity for a period of time under supervision and will be reminded again of the covenant’s guidelines. A phone call from an adult leader to a youth’s parents may occur depending on the nature of the behavior.
3. Third Consequence – the youth’s parents will be contacted and the leaders will discuss and determine the appropriate course of action, which may ultimately be for the youth or adult to leave the group for the remainder of the trip at their own or their parents’ expense. There will also be a follow up conversation after the trip with the parties involved and the pastor to discuss the situation and determine appropriate resolutions going forward.

**CPC Adult Mentors and Clergy agree to uphold these practices:**

- We agree to honor and uphold the words of Jesus Christ who taught us to love God and our neighbors as ourselves.
- We will ensure that all of our words and actions reflect our roles as mentors and leaders to youth.
- We will respectfully and fairly uphold the guidelines and consequences of this Covenant through faithful collaboration, conversation, and respect for one another as fellow leaders and disciples of Christ.

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CPC Authorized Staff Member

High School Mission Trip Coordinator

**\*\*\*SIGNATURES\*\*\***

I, \_\_\_\_\_(printed name) have read and understand the CPC High School Mission Trip Covenant stated above. I pledge to honor this covenant and uphold all of its standards.

Youth Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_(printed name), as the parent/guardian of the youth named above have read and understand the CPC High School Mission Trip Covenant stated above. I pledge to reinforce the importance of this covenant and to encourage his/her commitment to it.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_