

Chester Presbyterian Church Youth Group Covenant

When asked what the greatest commandment was, Jesus responded, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment." And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself". (Matthew 22:37-39) Our hope is to create an environment in the Chester Presbyterian Youth Group where we fulfill both of these commandments. We also hope to create an environment where all are free to learn and where all are free to have fun. As such, we have all agreed to develop a covenant agreement that establishes certain ground rules for leaders and youth alike to abide by. This is that covenant agreement.

Respect

I agree to respect youth group members, youth group leaders, and the church. One element of respect is allowing each other to speak without interruptions. Another element of respect is to practice positive affirmation. If I cannot say something in a positive way and with positive intentions, I agree to keep silent.

Participation

I agree to actively engage in all activities during youth group. I understand that I must attend 2 youth group meetings, help with 2 mission projects, and help with 2 service opportunities in order to participate in special events and trips.

Appropriate Behavior

I agree to behave in a mature manner. Interrupting people or the event, abusive behavior, fighting, and inappropriate displays of affection are not permitted. I understand that public displays of affection (PDA), which include excessive hugging or displays of romantic interest, are distracting and may make others feel uncomfortable, jealous, or excluded. I am also aware that fighting and the destruction of church property will not be tolerated. I understand involvement in these activities will result in the calling of my parents and in my temporary removal from the group.

Appropriate Dress

I agree to dress in a manner appropriate for church functions. If dressed inappropriately, I understand that I will be asked to change my clothes.

Safety

I agree to behave in a way that promotes the safety of all. This includes not running in unsafe areas, not trying to injure someone, not throwing objects unless games involve doing so, and not participating in any illegal activity. For those who drive, this includes obeying all traffic laws, including wearing my seatbelt and driving the speed limit.

Tobacco, Drugs, and Alcohol

I agree not to bring tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or any other illegal substances to youth group functions. I also agree not to consume any of these substances. Failure to do so will result in my removal from the event that I abuse these substances and may result in exclusion from future events. Failure to do so may also result in my arrest.

Portable Electronic Devices

I agree to turn off and put away all portable electronic devices, including cell phones, when I participate in Chester Presbyterian youth and church wide activities.

Driving

I understand I may not drive to or from any event that originates from Chester Presbyterian Church property. Presbytery of the James (POJ) Youth Council members may drive to POJ events, but they may not transport youth who are not family or members of the POJ Youth Council to or from these events.

Friends

If I want a friend to go on an over night or off sight trip with the youth group, I understand my friend must attend at least two youth group meetings prior to that event.

Agreement of Participant

I, _____, agree to abide by this covenant. I understand if I break this covenant, I may be excused from the event at which the covenant has been broken.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Agreement of Parent and Parental Permission

_____ has my permission to attend Chester Presbyterian Church Youth Group functions, special events, and trips. I understand if my child breaks this covenant, I may be contacted and expected to immediately come and pick my child up from the event at which the covenant has been broken.

Signature: _____ Date: _____