
Covenant of Conduct For Meetings & Church Sponsored Events

When we gather in Christian Fellowship, we gather so that we might walk with others, helping each other along the way as we journey toward Christ. Youth Fellowship is to be a safe place for us to gather, free from put downs and distractions so that we might fully enjoy an atmosphere of Christian Fellowship. For these reasons, we agree to the following as our Covenant of Conduct.

1. Our words are powerful. Be careful what you say. We agree to use our words to build people up, not to put ourselves or others down, or make other people feel uncomfortable.
2. We agree to participate fully in all large group and small group activities. If we're on the phone, texting, or on e-mail, we're not participating in the group. Please use phones only for emergencies or to contact parents when we are together.
3. We will respect all people and property. That includes cleaning up after ourselves and not leaving messes for others to clean.
4. We will wear appropriate, modest dress: (No bare midriffs or inappropriate T-shirts slogans.)
5. Physical contact between members of the group must be respectful and mindful of what is good for each individual, as well as the group as a whole.
6. When any member of the group or the adult in charge asks another to "stop", that is the last word, and it must be honored.

Retreat/Lock-in/Travel Expectations:

1. Lights out and quiet time must be respected.
2. **No one may enter the dorm area of the opposite sex.**
3. We will observe laws of the land, and rules of the facility.
4. We will not leave the church, camp, condo, hotel, or group without direct permission from the Youth Pastor or person in charge.
5. Do not go anywhere alone, including public restrooms and rest areas. Always travel in groups of three or more when away from church property. Your buddy may save your life.
6. It is recommended that radios, CD players, MP3's, personal DVD players, game boys, etc. stay at home. These items can however, be used while traveling and quiet music with earphones can be used when going to sleep. This equipment, if brought along on a trip will be the responsibility of the person who brought it. Upon arrival all electronic equipment is to be put away. If it becomes a distraction, it will be collected and held by the Youth Pastor or adult in charge at their discretion. Reasonable steps will be taken to keep the equipment safe from theft or damage; however, First United Methodist Church of Bastrop and/or the adults in charge will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

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Transportation:

1. Licensed teens with insurance may drive to and from youth events.
2. Youth, other than family members may not travel in a vehicle with another youth driving with a learner's permit, even though the parent is present.
3. All passengers must wear seat belts while the vehicle is in motion.
4. Passengers must not allow their actions or noise to affect the driver's concentration.
5. Vehicles must be left clean.

ALL YOUTH:

1. Shall go directly to church and home when driving, unless parents have given permission to do otherwise.
2. Shall never take other youth in their car without parental permission.
3. Shall never leave an event early without parental permission.

Youth Fellowship/Ministry Non-Negotiables*

- **No possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco products**
- **No abuse of legal or prescription drugs**
- **No sexual intimacy or sexual harassment**
- **No possession of weapons of any kind.**

Any violation of a non-negotiable item or other behavior that is disruptive to the group or behavior that threatens the safety of oneself or others, will result in the offending youth(s) being sent home immediately at the parents' expense. In signing this form, the parent agrees to cover all expenses related to sending his or her child home.

I have read and agree to abide by this Covenant of Conduct.

Signature of Youth

Date:

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date:

For additional copies of forms go to www.fumcbastrop.org and click on Youth.