

Grace United Methodist Church
13056 Elk Ridge Road, Hartwood, Virginia 22406

Youth Covenant of Conduct

During the meetings, events, and trips under the sponsorship and guidance of Grace United Methodist Church. I recognize that I am a representative of the Christian Community and I am responsible for my actions. I understand that by signing this Covenant, I agree to abide by the following guidelines:

I Shall:

- Recognize that everyone in the group is a part of the body of Christ. I will embrace inclusiveness by making sure that everyone feels welcome and important.
- Respect the physical and emotional well-being of others by "doing unto them as I would have them do unto me." (This includes refraining from harsh play or violence, refraining from harmful jokes, respecting the need for sleep, etc.)
- Respect the health of my own body by refraining from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs. I understand that the use of these substances is absolutely prohibited.
- Respect the things I use and the property of places I visit. The areas used for all events, including transportation, shall be left clean.
- Participate fully in all scheduled group activities and abide by additional group guidelines made during a special event or trip.
- Act appropriately with all members within the group. This means no couples alone at any time, and no public displays of affection.
- Follow all instructions given by group leaders and chaperones without protest. (This does not mean an instruction may not be politely and discretely questioned if it seems unreasonable).
- Stay within the group or assigned sub-group at all times. I will not wander off alone or leave the activity site unless granted permission by an adult, and I will report for all designated check-in times.
- Hold safety in the highest regard and refrain from compromising my own safety or another's safety.
- Provide a trusting environment for my peers. When others share something about themselves in a group discussion, I will not repeat that information to other friends outside of the group.
- Take the initiative to inform my guests of their responsibility to follow these guidelines when they visit the group or participate in an event or trip.
- Refrain from bringing and/or utilizing any electrical appliances such as cell phones, DS, and gaming devices.
- Walk safely to classes, as well as stay within my class until released to my parent/guardian.

Guidelines for Consequences:

Consequences will focus on restoring peace with reconciliation among the parties involved. The goal of resolving each problem will be growth and learning through repentance and forgiveness. Any problems encountered will be handled within the group and by the adult leaders to the extent that this is possible. However, should a situation persist or become uncontrollable, the parent/guardian will be contacted and informed of the problem. Should the situation be urgent, the parent/guardian will be contacted immediately and will be responsible for picking up the youth from an event or trip.

Child/Youth and Parent/Guardian Signature:

In signing this covenant, I vow that I have read and understand these guidelines. I recognize that a covenant is a binding promise, and my signature is testimony that I agree to adhere to the provisions of this covenant.

Signature of Child/Youth _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____