

Name of Participant _____

Second Presbyterian Youth (SPY)

Covenant for Youth and Adults

2016 - 2017

The Purpose of This Covenant

As a community of God, Second Presbyterian Youth (SPY) strives to create a safe, loving community where participants actively learn about who they are as they learn about whose they are. In order to maintain this environment the following covenant has been established. This covenant will be in effect for every sixth through twelfth grade youth and all adult leaders involved in SPY. This covenant is in effect anytime we are on the campus of Second Presbyterian Church, at an event or trip sponsored by Second Presbyterian Church and whenever the youth and adult leaders are together for any reason. Knowing that individual sacrifices occur in a true community, this statement of covenant has been prayerfully composed with the safety of all participants in mind.

The Living Document

The responsibility to approve this covenant ultimately falls into the hands of the Youth Ministry. Participants and parents of participants throughout SPY are encouraged to work with the Youth Ministry in modifying this covenant as necessary or every two years. The success of this document relies on the cooperation of everyone involved.

The Foundation

The foundation of this community consists of love, respect and responsibility. It is impractical and in some ways insulting to outline a comprehensive list of appropriate and inappropriate behaviors for the program. Participants should always act in the best interest of the group and with love, respect and responsibility in mind. Participants will always be held responsible for their actions. Participants unclear about the appropriateness of a behavior should seek the advice of the Director of Youth Ministry (DYM) or adult leader.

Serious Concerns

SPY participants are not to use or possess any illegal drugs, illegal substances, alcohol, and tobacco products of any kind or weapons and are not to participate in any extra-marital sexual activity. Furthermore, participants must adhere to local, state and federal laws. The above has no place in SPY and break down the group instead of building it.

Expectations

The following list of expectations has been developed to effectively communicate some specific behavioral concerns that commonly exist in group situations:

- ◆ Full participation is asked of every participant during every meeting, event, program, activity, practice, trip and rehearsal.
- ◆ Each participant should respect him- or herself, other people, and personal, public and church property at all times.
- ◆ Responsibility should be shown in regard to any display of affection.
- ◆ Each participant should be responsible for her or his choice of language. The language should be positive, supportive and representative of our church family.
- ◆ Seatbelts must be worn when traveling.

Management of This Covenant

It is the responsibility of all participants (youth and adults) to hold all other participants accountable for their behavior. The adults should not be expected to act as the only responsible members of the program, but should be respected as figures of authority. It is the responsibility of the DYM to ultimately uphold these expectations and to make judgment calls when necessary. When the judgments or decisions of the DYM come into question, the Youth Ministry will serve as advisor for the situation.

Consequences

For serious concerns (drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, sexual activity or any illegal behavior including misdemeanors and felonies), the youth will be required to notify their parents about their behavior in the presence of an adult leader. Once notified, the parent(s) of the youth and adult leader(s) will work together to establish the next appropriate step with the youth’s best interest in mind.

Less serious concerns will result in a conference with the DYM or an adult leader to decide upon an appropriate consequence.

The DYM reserves the right to send any participant home at his or her own expense for inappropriate behavior. If the DYM is not present when sending home a participant, adult leaders must clear the decision through the DYM or one of the pastors at Second Presbyterian Church.

Conclusion

This covenant has been developed for the general well being of the individuals and the smooth functioning of SPY. It was designed to be a positive guideline for living. Anyone should feel free to speak to our Director of Youth Ministries regarding any of these expectations.

We, the undersigned, have read and discussed this covenant and agree to abide by it.

SPY Participant Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Director of Youth Ministry

Date

**Permission Slip and Release of Liability
Second Presbyterian Church
600 Pleasant Valley Dr., Little Rock, AR 72227**

Youth's Name: _____ Email address: _____

Home Address: _____ Grade: _____

To be filled out by youth:

I, _____, am planning on participating in youth activities at Second Presbyterian Church. With adult leaders and other youth from SPC, I agree to be responsible for my behavior, to respect the health and safety of others and myself, to relate to others and to use property and equipment in appropriate ways. **I understand that no drinking, smoking, sexual conduct, or use of drugs is permitted and that a violation of any of these will result in immediate consequences.**

Date _____ Signed _____

To be filled out by parent:

I grant permission for _____ to participate in youth activities with adult leaders and youth of SPC. I expect and hold my child to be responsible for his/her own actions, to be a cooperative member of the group so that these activities can be a wholesome means of fellowship. I have read the statement of responsibility above and have talked or will talk with my child about it. The church and adult leaders are held with no liability for unwise actions on my child's part.

Date _____ Signed _____

(Parent or Guardian Signature)

MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

In case of emergency, I understand that every effort will be made to contact me. In the event that emergency treatment is deemed necessary by designated sponsor and I cannot be reached; I hereby give the **designated sponsor** permission to act in my behalf in seeking emergency treatment for my young person, _____. I give permission to those administering emergency treatment to do so, using those measures deemed necessary.

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____ Signature: _____

Phone#1: _____ Phone#2: _____

If parents are not available, please call relative or person below.

Name & Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Any allergies or medical conditions (medication, drug reactions, etc.): _____

Any needed medication? Yes/No

INSURANCE INFORMATION:

Name of Insurance: _____ Phone #: _____

Name of Holder: _____ Contract #: _____

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that this information stays up to date in the Youth Ministry office.

If there is further information about your child that will be helpful to the youth leaders, please use the reverse side of this form. This form is valid August 1, 2016 - September 1, 2017. You may provide us a copy of your insurance card if you wish.