

First Presbyterian Church of Ponca City, OK
YOUTH GROUP COVENANT

This covenant has been developed and accepted by the youth and their leaders and affirmed by the church's Session. Please read carefully and understand that a covenant is not a contract of protection but is something used to open each other up to God's message and to one another. It also provides the method to resolve an instance of non-God honoring activity.

Parents, youth and leaders are required to sign this form and return it to Church. Youth group members will not be allowed to attend off-site events without a signed covenant.

COVENANT

I, _____, a member of the Youth Group of the First Presbyterian Church of Ponca City, agree to the following:

- **I agree to welcome and accept other members of the youth group, as Christ loves and accepts me. I agree to reach out to others, and be open to making new friends.**
- **I agree to treat others in a *Christ like* manner. To be open minded to the ideas and opinions of each person while being respectful of others and myself.**
- **I agree to behave in a way that honors God at all times, understanding that my behavior and manner of speaking reflects on the entire youth group and myself.**
- **I agree to abide by the guidelines of all retreat centers, off-site events, and church events. To respectfully take care of property and follow requests of the adult leaders. To understand it may be my responsibility to pay or repair any damage that I may do to said property.**
- **I will abide by the lights out rules on overnight events, remain in the assigned sleeping areas, and be respectful of others sharing these spaces.**
- **I understand that no youth will be allowed to leave an event or function facility alone, and must be accompanied by an adult when away from an activity.**
- **I will follow the Specific Rules of: *No Smoking, No Drinking Alcohol, No Illegal Substances, No Sexual Misconduct*, and understand that if there is a strong suspicion of such behavior, I will be required to call my parents, and it will be their responsibility to come or make arrangements to pick me up from the activity. Consequences of such behavior will then be decided by a subsequent meeting with parents, youth and church leadership.**
- **I will actively participate in scheduled events and group sessions of the youth group. I will come with an open mind and heart, and not block others from their participation in youth group and their relationship with Christ.**
- **Youth and leaders agree to keep in confidence sensitive subjects discussed, except when an individual is in danger of hurting themselves or those around them.**

- **Leaders agree to work with consistency and fairness in dealing with the restrictions that have been placed on the youth. Ears will be open to hearing youth beliefs and opinions before final decisions are made.**

I understand that it is my responsibility to uphold the covenant, and it has been put in place to bring me closer to God. If I break any part of this covenant, I may be sent home at the parent's expense and responsibility, and will not be able to attend future events until a resolution has been reached.

Youth Group Participant's Signature _____ Date, _____

TO BE SIGNED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

I have read the Youth Group Covenant and understand that if my son/daughter breaks the covenant and a decision is made to send them home, it will be my responsibility to come and pick them up or make arrangements to get them home.

Parent Signature _____ Date, _____