

Trinity Lutheran Youth Covenant



LCMS YOUTH GATHERING | Minneapolis · July 11-15, 2019

We agree to honor one another as members of God's family during this Gathering experience by treating each other in the following Christian manner:

- Show concern for others' physical and emotional well-being.
- Use words that "build people up".
- Have a positive attitude and be flexible when things go wrong or schedules change.
- Understand that leaders will sometimes make decisions that we don't like but we will be supportive anyway.

*Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the King.
1 Peter 2:17*

We agree to care for each other in our group by helping each other in these ways:

- Offering to carry luggage, open doors, or assist with any job (sometimes even before being asked).
- Being on time for meetings, so we don't hold everyone up.
- Not trying to "sneak out" of commitments made in this covenant.
- Being tidy in rooms and considerate of others' sleep needs.

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit,
but in humility consider others better than yourselves.
Philippians 2:3*

In addition, we expect our Leaders to:

- Show patience and try to get the "whole story" before reacting.
- Be flexible when a change of plans or rules is needed.
- Show us a lighthearted, loving, and fun side to themselves.
- Consult us in decision making as much as possible.
- Follow this covenant fairly in dealing with problems.

*Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you,
who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you.
1 Thessalonians 5:12*

We agree that we are called to be responsible to one another and to the families and church we represent and that we will deal with the following behavior issues in the following ways:

- With members of the opposite sex, we will show respect and follow Biblical guidelines for Christian conduct, always being concerned for the other person's reputation, feelings, and well-being.
- Opposite genders will not be in rooms at the time of "lights out" and in the mornings when roommates are getting ready. If we are visiting in one another's rooms at other times, adult leaders will be informed, and we will keep the door ajar.
- When we're angry, hassled, or upset we will talk to the person(s) involved or seek the help of an adult in resolving a problem.
- We will refrain from smoking or the use of any tobacco product.
- We will not engage in substance abuse of any kind, including alcohol.
- We will not use "put-downs" or insults (seriously or in jest).
- We will keep copies of our personal emergency forms with us at all times in our backpacks. Adult leaders will carry a 2nd copy for everyone in the group.
- We will use common sense and Christian care when an issue isn't covered by this covenant.

In this Covenant, we willingly agree to abide by these rules and expectations:

- Full participation of Gathering events according to guidelines set at Pre-Gathering Sessions.
- Full cooperation with our Adult Leaders.
- Lights out, in our own rooms, and quiet by 1 hour after return time. Return time is within 1/2 hour of the last scheduled event.
- No illegal use of drugs or alcohol.
- Refraining from the use of CELLULAR PHONES during Gathering Programming (Bible Studies, Mass Events, Interest Centers, etc.) which could cause a distraction to ourselves and to those around us.
- To always travel in groups of 2 or more.
- Stay in areas mapped as safe.

*Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.
Galatians 5:25*

When someone refuses to follow this covenant, we will handle the problem with the following consequences:

- Youth may be asked to consult privately with an Adult Leader or other youth involved in the problem.
- Youth may be asked to sleep in the room of an Adult Leader.
- Youth may be asked to spend part or all of the day under the direct supervision of an Adult Leader.
- Substance abuse or other major problem (theft, property damage, etc.) is under ZERO TOLERANCE. Police may be called and the person(s) responsible may be sent home at their own expense.

*If one falls down, his friend can help him up.
Ecclesiastes 4:10a*

If someone gets separated from the group:

- We will meet at the place our group agreed upon in advance.
- Return to the hotel if it is safe to do so. You may travel with other Gathering participants wearing wristbands.
- Seek a "Yellow Shirt" (Community Life Builder) for help or step into a hotel.
- Call the Helpline (the # is on your wristband). We will call the Helpline and let them know we are looking for you if we can't find you in a reasonable amount of time (30 minutes). The Gathering has Lost Person procedures to assist with situations like this.

*A man of understanding delights in wisdom.
Proverbs 10:23b*

For those who did not or could not join us in the Gathering, we will return to share our **REAL. PRESENT. GOD.** We agree to:

- Bring back photos, stories, and other mementos to share.
- Participate in the Youth Gathering Reception and Banquet (TBA).
- Call home to parents and to "sponsors".
- If available, use a postcard to communicate with those back home.
- Show care not to leave those who did not attend out of conversations but encourage them to join us for other youth events.

+++++

Signature of Youth _____

Signature of Parent _____

Signature of Adult Leader _____