

APPENDIX J

POLICY OF THE TOWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOR THE PREVENTION OF ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Covenant of Conduct
The Towson United Methodist Church

Galatians 5:22-23

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with passion and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

I agree to participate in activities of the UMYF and other youth sponsored activities.

During these activities, I agree to:

- treat all persons, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, and culture, with respect and consideration.
- respect the facility we are using.
- portray a positive role model for others by maintaining an attitude of respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, tact, and maturity.

During these activities I agree not to:

- use profanity.
- purchase or participate in the use of drugs or alcohol.
- participate in inappropriate displays of affection or sexual activity.
- conduct myself recklessly such that I cause injury to myself or others.
- make threats that would indicate intent to do bodily harm to self or others.
- participate in criminal mischief, reckless damage or destruction of property, structures, equipment, or vehicles, or theft.
- bring or use any weapon(s), fireworks, pets, pornographic materials, or any other inappropriate items.
- abuse others physically (e.g. strike, spank, shake, slap), verbally (e.g. humiliate, degrade, threaten), sexually (e.g. inappropriate touching, exposure, or comments), or mentally (e.g. inconsistent standards, communicating one behavior and rewarding the opposite).
- use any electronic equipment (such as cell phones, iPods, PDAs, etc.) or other item that may distract me or others from participating in planned activities or that would prevent me or others from getting appropriate and necessary rest.

Above all, I agree to have fun at UMYF and all youth sponsored activities.

I understand that:

- My Parents and I are financially responsible for any damage that should occur because of my negligence or misconduct.
- all penalties for violating the Covenant of Conduct are left up to the discretion of the Youth Director (or assigned clergy), or his/her representative, in consultation with other Youth Advisors. These penalties may include the possibly of being sent home at the Parents' expense.
- The Covenant of Conduct does not cover all situations. In the event that something arises that is not mentioned, the Youth Director (or assigned clergy), or his/her representative, reserves the right to make all necessary decisions.

I have read the Covenant of Conduct and fully agree with the conditions. I understand that I will be excused from participating in UMYF or other youth sponsored activities if I violate any conditions of this covenant.

Signature of Participant

Signature of Parent if Participant is under 18

Printed Name of Participant

Date

Signature of Youth Pastor

Date