

First Presbyterian Church Youth Mission Covenant

I will be open to the surprising work of God on this trip, even when it comes through the unexpected (like bad food, exhausting work, and people who are very different from me).

I will live as a part of a short-term experiment in Christian community while on this trip, showing respect and attentive love to each person on the mission team.

For the days of this trip I will seek to follow the example of Jesus who did not come to be served but to serve.

I will seek to avoid actions or attitudes that might detract from the building of Christian community or the mission we have been sent to accomplish (complaint, illegal drugs or alcohol, gossip, profanity, tobacco, etc.).

I will honor the foreign cultural context in which we will be serving by practicing gratitude for the food we are served, welcoming different expressions of Christian worship joyfully, dressing with extreme sensitivity to the standards of dress of those we are serving, and showing compassion for the economic situation of the people we are serving by only spending money as deemed appropriate by the leaders of the mission program.

I will honor the group and the importance of the work we will be doing by living within the basic behavioral guidelines for the trip (not wandering off from the group, letting girls' bedrooms be for girls and guys' bedrooms be for the guys, keeping a reasonable "lights out" to insure that I am rested enough for the next day's work, etc.).

I will strive to leave each place our group touches a little better than it was before we came, whether on the mission site, on an airplane or in a restaurant in Nashville.

In the unlikely event I choose to disregard this covenant, I understand that I may be sent home prior to the trip's end at my parents' expense.

This covenant is committed to by:

Youth Participant _____ Date _____

Youth Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____