Youth Group Covenant

Our Philosophy
At Montview we believe faith is about more than dogma. It’s about experiencing God in everyday life, both in times of joy and struggle. It’s about opening our hearts to a greater capacity for love, forgiveness and service.

We believe that the love of God surrounds us and our call is to nurture this love in ourselves and each other. Through prayer, worship, education, outreach and mission, we want to foster spiritual fulfillment, community, tolerance, peace, non-violence and social justice.

We trust that God goes with us wherever life takes us and, because of that trust, we can risk living with compassion, gratitude and joy. We invite you to join us on the journey!

Our Goal
At Montview we strive to provide our children with a deep understanding of the Christian faith, ethics and values with the hope that we will send them out into the world being examples of Jesus’ all-encompassing love and focus on social justice.

Our Conduct
Montview maintains high expectations for each participant’s conduct while in our youth programs. As a program focused on Christian ethics and love, we promise to learn together in collaborative, supportive and safe environments both in and out of the Church building.

As a part of this responsibility, we shall commit ourselves to modeling Christ-like conduct through our actions and words while at Montview and in the world. Montview youth, volunteers and parents are expected to:

• Be Respectful. • Be Responsible. • Possess Integrity • Show Christian Love + Kindness

The following is a covenant based on various ideas brought up by leaders and youth during our kick off meeting.
My Covenant

YOUTH:

____ As a participant in the Youth Program, I promise to treat my peers and leaders with kindness and listen with respect and understanding. I agree to be helpful, polite and follow the direction of the paid and volunteer staff. Any disrespect and or disruption will not be accepted.

____ I understand that electronics, including cell phones, are not to be used during program events and I will give mine to an adult if asked to during programs/events.

____ I understand that we are coming together to learn, grow in our faith and have fun! I will participate and be welcoming to others, show gratitude and work to make the world a better place both at Montview and beyond. This requires courage, integrity and leadership.

____ I understand that our Youth Program is a safe place for all and as such, I promise to not participate in any of the following behaviors: interrupting; bullying anyone because of his or her disability; harassment; sexism; racism; any other disrespectful teasing; vandalism; physical or emotional violence including excessive horseplay; use of any drugs, alcohol or tobacco; inappropriate dress (it is generally expected that the Youth Program dress code is the same as your school dress code)

____ I understand that the above is not a comprehensive list of actions or behavior but rather an acknowledgment that participating in Montview’s Youth Program requires a commitment to try to model God’s love and respect for myself and others.

____ I understand that disregarding any of the above may result in my being asked to leave the program on a temporary or permanent basis.

Print Name: __________________________      Signature: ____________________________________

PARENT:

____ I have read my child’s Covenant and will help facilitate his/her good behavior and respect.

____ I understand teachers/leaders are not babysitters or disciplinarians and I will be available if any issues come up. This could mean attending activities with my child, when requested, being ‘on-call’ during programs, and if my child does not keep promises, I will show up and take them home.

____ If my child has any challenges or debilities that affect his/her participation, either physically or emotionally, I will share this with the Youth leader so he/she can help facilitate positive interaction and successful group dynamics.

____ I understand that the above is not a comprehensive list of actions or behavior but rather an acknowledgment that participating in Montview’s Youth Program requires a commitment to try to model God’s love and respect for myself and others.

____ I acknowledge that creating a safe, healthy, fun, and spiritually centered Youth Program takes a village! And I commit to offering my talents. This could include chaperoning 2 or 3 meetings or a work trip, being a speaker or presenter, hosting a party or event, providing food, teaching Sunday School, serving on the youth committee or similar volunteer efforts!

Print Name: __________________________      Signature: ____________________________________
My Covenant: Work Trip Addendum

Participation in off-site events, overnight retreats or work trips requires added commitments:

YOUTH:

____ While on trips away from Church with the Montview Youth Program, I agree to the commitments I made above.

____ I agree to respect gender boundaries within the facilities and observe appropriate behavior as determined by the leaders and chaperones on the trip. I agree that no inappropriate physical contact is acceptable.

____ I agree to stay with the group and not leave any of the organized activities or facilities unless approved by the leader or chaperones.

____ I understand and accept that I might be assigned to roommate(s) that are not my preference, but I can accept it as an opportunity to make new connections.

____ I agree that if there is inappropriate behavior by a roommate or other youth participant, I will alert the Youth Leader immediately so that they can help in resolution.

____ I understand that some Montview trips take me to environments that are new and can be uncomfortable for my way of thinking. I promise to be respectful of the locals and obey any rules or restrictions that are an integral part of the on-site program.

Print Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________

PARENT:

____ I have read my child’s additional promises noted above and will help facilitate his/her good behavior and respect.

____ I understand that some Montview off site events are in locations or within cultures that conflict with my/my child’s world view but promise that I will assess each event to see if this would cause issues to the group. If I think it will, I will schedule a meeting with the Youth Minister to alert them of possible issues and determine a plan of action. If it is determined by the Youth Minister that my child should not attend certain off site events, I will abide and accept this decision.

____ I agree that some children can disrupt the group dynamic and poison the Group/Leaders’ abilities to create a loving and learning environment. I understand that if my child is the cause of this, I will come to the location of the event and bring my child home.

____ I promise to speak to my child and help teach him/her of God’s unbounded love and acceptance of all people and how he/she needs to work within the Montview community and the wider world to be understanding and loving.

Print Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________

Note: a notarized medical form is required for all off site activities. (Attached)