

**Reisterstown United Methodist Church  
Youth Covenant/Consent and Release Form**

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' contact phone numbers:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

We, the undersigned youth and parent/guardian of the youth, acknowledge that the student listed above is interested in participating in the youth ministry at Reisterstown United Methodist Church. With the understanding that the church cares for the youth of this church and community and makes every effort to provide safe activities for the youth, we agree that, to accomplish this, the following rules and policies will be enforced:

**Youth Covenant:**

1. *We will treat others as we would want to be treated. Respect, in word and deed for God, our leaders, each other, and ourselves will be our mission.*
2. *We will not possess or use drugs, alcohol, tobacco, explosives, fireworks, or weapons on Reisterstown UMC property or at Youth Ministry activities.*
3. *We will respect the property of others, whether it is personal property of one another, church property, or the property of anyone away from church grounds.*
4. *Our interaction will be appropriate at all times. This includes physical interaction as well as speech. The Bible tells us that obscene stories, foolish talk, coarse jokes, and evil words are not appropriate for Christians. (Ephesians 5:4, Proverbs 11:9, Proverbs 15:28) We are to lift others up with or words, not tear them down. Therefore, words used to hurt others, whether spoken seriously, jokingly, or sarcastically, will not be tolerated. Also, profanity and inappropriate jokes will not be tolerated.*
5. *We will dress in a way that is respectful toward ourselves and others. Jesus warns in Matthew 5:28 against lust. Also, we are representing ourselves and Christ by the way we dress. Because of this, we will be careful to wear clothing that attracts the appropriate form of attention.*
6. *We will respect and follow the instructions given by adult servant-leaders.*

*If this covenant is broken, the following actions will be taken:*

- A. *All individuals will be held personally responsible for any damage to property they may incur.*
- B. *Immediate removal from the activity **by the parents** will occur for possession of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or weapons. The same will occur for violence of any kind.*

*For all other problems, the following procedure will be followed:*

- 1. A verbal warning will be given, which may include one-on-one counseling with an adult servant-leader.*
- 2. A second warning will be given. The student must meet with the adult-in-charge to discuss the situation. The student will call home to alert parents of the situation.*
- 3. If the disruptive or inappropriate behavior continues, the youth will call his/her parents for removal from the event. The youth may return to the next event with a clean slate.*
- 3. Steps 1 and/or 2 may be skipped, depending on the severity of the situation.*

**Parents' Consent and Release:**

By signing this covenant, we are giving our consent for the youth named above to participate in all Reisterstown UMC youth ministry activities and, if necessary, consent for the youth to be transported by church staff or their designated adult servant-leaders to, from and during youth events by private vehicle. We understand that a separate consent form will be required before our child will be permitted to participate in any overnight event or event located outside of a 30-mile radius of Reisterstown UMC. When we allow our child to participate in a Youth Ministry activity we are granting our consent for our child to fully participate therein unless otherwise directed by us in writing. We understand that this covenant will be valid until September 30, 2009, at which time a new covenant must be signed.

We have reviewed the Youth Behavior Covenant set forth above and agree that our child will abide by it. We also agree that if our child must return home early for disciplinary reasons, it will be our responsibility to see that our child is returned home at our own expense.

Finally, we understand that all reasonable safety precaution will be taken at all times by Reisterstown United Methodist Church and its agents during the activities and events that the youth will be invited to participate in. I understand the possibility of unforeseen hazards and know the inherent possibility of risk. I agree, therefore, not to hold Reisterstown United Methodist Church, its leaders, employees, and volunteer staff liable for damages, losses, diseases or injuries incurred by my child.

*We, the undersigned, have carefully read the foregoing consent and release and are signing of our own free act and deed.*

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Youth \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_