

**MIDDLETOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**ARISE YOUTH MINISTRY - OVERNIGHT TRIP POLICIES**

***ARISE** Youth Ministry emerges from the values of **A**cceptance, **R**elationships, **I**ntentionality, **S**pirituality, and **E**mpowerment. Through worship, fellowship, and mission we live out the gospel of God's love in Jesus Christ.*

While trying to create fun, relevant, and exciting activities for our youth, we must also create a safe environment where students can grow and exercise their faith. The policies outlined below are not meant to curb the enjoyment or creativity of youth, youth ministers, or chaperones but are provided to communicate what behavior is expected. We expect our youth to abide by these policies, and while we are prepared to implement the disciplinary actions outlined below, it is our hope that such actions will not become necessary. We have found that when students know what is expected of them, we have very few problems and are able to create the warm and nurturing environment that is the ARISE Youth Ministry.

1. **STUDENT CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT:** Youth are permitted to take a cell phone with them on the trip. Youth found using their cell phone in an unacceptable manner will have it confiscated. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to, taking cell phone photos without the subject's permission or use of social media in a harmful manner. Youth will be permitted to take electronic devices on the trip as long as they are not a distraction to those on the bus (i.e. portable DVD players need headphones). Youth found using any electronic devices in an unacceptable manner will have it confiscated by chaperones or youth ministers. Confiscated items will be held by the Youth Minister until deemed acceptable to return to youth or at the end of the trip.
2. **INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR or CONTINUOUS DISRESPECTFULNESS:** Youth are expected to avoid using foul language or actions. You are expected to follow instructions from Youth Ministers and chaperones. Bullying or disrespectful behavior of any type will not be tolerated. Such behavior must be corrected upon first request by Youth Minister or chaperones.
3. **SMOKING, DRUGS, ALCOHOL, SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR MISCONDUCT, DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY, STEALING AND SHOPLIFTING:** Absolutely no smoking, drug use, or consumption of alcoholic beverages will be permitted. This includes taking prescription drugs for which the student does not have a prescription. Youth Ministers and chaperones are to be advised of ALL prescription and over-the-counter medications used by students on the MCC health history form. Medication is to be held by the Youth Minister or designated chaperone and administered to the student by the Youth Minister or designated chaperones, unless otherwise communicated and agreed upon by the Youth Minister. (See Parent Note below regarding prescription medication). Behaviors

including destruction of property, stealing and/or shoplifting are considered serious offenses and may result in police notification by outside parties. Stealing from other youth, adults, or host sites will not be tolerated.

- 4. DISCIPLINARY ACTION:** In the event of a serious infraction, as defined above, or as deemed by the Youth Minister and/or chaperones, the youth is subject to having their parent/guardian notified and being sent home at the expense of the parent/guardian. This includes, but is not limited to: inappropriate cell phone photos, shoplifting, breaking the law, breaking curfew, drinking alcohol or being involved in any way with unauthorized or illegal drugs.

*“The success of this trip lies in your ability to cooperate with each other, follow expectations, and show courtesy to all.”*

#### **PARENT NOTES:**

**MEDICATIONS:** Medication(s) that youth are currently taking on a daily basis should be sent and taken as prescribed during this trip. This trip should not be a week to wean a child off a medication, ramp a child up on a medication, or give them a break or honeymoon from their medication. The safety and well-being of our youth is our priority.

**OTHER HEALTH CONCERNS:** Parents are expected to inform Youth Minister of any behavioral issues, medical health concerns, or emotional crises confronting their youth. The Youth Minister may agree to keep such concerns confidential if requested by the parent, and the Youth Minister feels it is appropriate.

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**STUDENT:**

I attest that I have attended the informational session for \_\_\_\_\_  
on \_\_\_\_\_. I understand that this is a mission trip and I agree with the  
following:

- A. I understand I may be doing laborious work and I agree to participate in these activities unless previously agreed to by myself, my parent(s), and Youth Minister
- B. I understand that there will be chaperones and Youth Minister(s) attending this trip for which I am to be respectful and follow their instructions.
- C. I have read and understand all trip expectations, understand the possible consequences if I choose not to abide by them, and agree I will abide by them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ have  
attended the informational session for \_\_\_\_\_ on  
\_\_\_\_\_. I understand that this is a mission trip and I agree with the following:

- A. I understand my child may be doing laborious work that may include and I agree to allow them to participate in these activities.
- B. I understand that there will be chaperones and youth ministers attending this trip with my youth that will be providing instructions my child will need to follow.
- C. I have read and understand all trip expectations, understand the possible consequences if my child chooses not to abide by them, and agree with them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Legal Guardian's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

