

Pathway Community Church Youth Ministry Participation Consent Form 2008-2009

Both sides of this form must be completed for each student to participate in events with Pathway Community Church youth group. It is valid for all events from September 2008 to August 2009.

I, _____ (printed name of parent/guardian), being the parent or legal guardian of the minor(s) listed below have been informed of the activities sponsored by Pathway Community Church and hereby give my consent for my minor child(ren) to participate in these activities. I understand that all reasonable safety precautions will be taken by the leaders of these activities and that the possibility of an unforeseen hazard does exist. I further agree not to hold Pathway Community Church, its leaders, employees, and volunteer staff liable for damages, losses, diseases, or injuries incurred by the minor(s) listed on this form. I consent to emergency medical treatment for my child(ren). I understand that all efforts will be made to reach me prior to treatment using the phone numbers I provide below. In the event that I cannot be reached, I give permission to the activity leader to make decisions necessary for treatment. I am responsible for the health care decisions for my child(ren) and agree that my insurance plan is the primary plan to pay for their medical treatment.

By listing the email of myself and my child(ren) below, I give Pathway youth group permission to contact us via email in regard to upcoming youth events and activities. If at any time I wish to stop receiving e-mail communications, I will simply respond as such to the email and my information will be removed from the list.

Signature of parent/guardian: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent(s)/Guardian: _____

Address: _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Home phone: _____ Parent cell phone(s): _____

Parent email (for information about youth events): _____

Other emergency contact name: _____ Phone: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Sex: _____ B-day: ____ / ____ / ____

Student email: _____ School Dist: _____

Allergies/activity restrictions: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Sex: _____ B-day: ____ / ____ / ____

Student email: _____ School Dist: _____

Allergies/activity restrictions: _____

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Sex: _____ B-day: ____ / ____ / ____

Student email: _____ School Dist: _____

Allergies/activity restrictions: _____

We often take pictures of the youth during their activities for use in newsletters, promotional materials, bulletin boards and the church website. We would like permission to use your child's photograph solely for these purposes. (For safety reasons, their names will not be printed with their pictures on the website.) Please initial below to let us know your wishes:

____ Yes, I give my consent for photos of my child to be used as stated above

____ No, I do not want photos of my child to be used as stated above

Return form to: Pathway Community Church, 890 Taxville Rd, York Pa 17408

Please read, discuss and sign both sides of this form with your student.

PATHWAY YOUTH GROUP RULES

Students come to youth group to learn about God and connect with each other. Behavior that hinders this goal, individually or corporately, will not be accepted. **Therefore, at youth group events all youth will be expected to...**

- **respect and obey staff.** Our staff care deeply about youth and wants to protect and nurture them. God has put us in positions of influence and authority for the purpose of teaching, correcting and training them in his ways. It is essential that they learn to submit to authority so that they will learn to obey God and have the blessings that come with obedience.
 - *Hebrews 13:17 "Obey your spiritual leaders and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they know they are accountable to God." NLT*
 - *Deuteronomy 32:46-47 "Take to heart all of the words I have given you today. Pass them on as a command to your children so they will obey every word of this law. These instructions are not mere words – they are your life! By obeying them you will enjoy a long life." NLT*
- **stay with the group** at all times. Students come to youth group to be with the group. There is rarely a need for a student or group of students to separate themselves from the group without staff permission. This causes disunity, cliques and hard feelings. It is also unsafe for the staff to be unaware of their activities or location.
 - *Ephesians 4:3 "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." NIV*
- **speak and act with love.** Our youth group is a place where students come for encouragement, comfort, understanding and friendship. It is a place where we learn to work out our differences and difficulties with love and mercy. Behavior that is unloving will not be accepted.
 - *1 Corinthians 13:4-5 "Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged." NLT*
 - *Ephesians 4:29 "Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them." NLT*
- **keep electronic devices turned off** (cell phones, games, ipods, etc). These devices distract youth from focusing on what is being taught and on building friendships with other students. It is selfish to ignore youth group members and staff by spending time using electronics while we are together as a group. (If a youth has a legitimate need to make a phone call, they must ask permission from a staff person. Parents can reach youth by calling a staff person.) If a student breaks this rule, a staff person will retain the device until a parent arranges to pick it up.
 - *Phil 2:3 "Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don't think only about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and what they are doing." NLT*
- **refrain from public displays of affection.** Holding hands, sitting close, hugging, kissing, and other forms of PDA will not be accepted because it is distracting and uncomfortable for the rest of the kids in the group. We encourage students to set a high standard of purity in their relationships, so that they can keep their focus on God.
 - *1 Timothy 4:12 "Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you teach, in the way you live, in your love, your faith and your purity." NLT*
 - *1 Timothy 5:1-2 "Treat younger men as brothers,...and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity." NIV*
- **dress with modesty.** Our purpose in being together is to grow in Christ and Christian friendship. Therefore it isn't appropriate to dress in a way that causes others to be tempted to think about us in a way that is impure. If a staff person feels that your clothes are not modest, we will ask you to put on other clothes. For summer events, please wear a modest swimsuit and bring along t-shirt and shorts to wear during group activities.
 - *"We try to live in such a way that no one will be hindered from finding the Lord by the way we act." 2 Corinthians 6:3*

CONSEQUENCES FOR DISOBEDIENCE

As Pathway Youth Staff, it is our goal to handle problems immediately, consistently and in a spirit of love and gentleness. Using scripture, we will show students how their behavior is not pleasing to God and is harmful to themselves or the youth group. The staff will always seek a result that includes confession, forgiveness and restoration. Failure to follow the rules will result in the student experiencing one of the following consequences:

- **Correction from youth staff.** So that we do not humiliate a student, this will happen privately and will be carried out by 2 or more staff persons (for accountability). Whenever possible, one of the staff will be the same sex as the student.
- **Dismissal from the event** (a parent will be contacted for immediate pick-up) **or suspension from a future youth group event.** It is our desire for youth to be at every event, but when a student violates our rules, they interfere with other students' opportunity to learn about God and experience Christian community. It would not be fair or loving for us to allow a student to interfere with God's work in the lives of other students, so we will remove them from the group for a time if necessary. It is our prayer that they would use this time for self-reflection and return to the group with a right attitude and willingness to obey.

Any time one of these measures is taken, the youth staff will notify the parent in person or by phone within 1 week of the offense.

I have read the rules and consequences and agree to submit to them.

Parent signature

Student signature

Student signature (siblings)

Student signature (siblings)