

**REACH! Covenant – Sign and Return**

**who we are**

As children of God we are ALL connected to one another. We seek to be inclusive and respectful of others. As a community we promote and support all persons in their healthy development (physically, mentally, socially, emotionally, and spiritually) in order to lead them to the fullest sense of identity, belonging, and wholeness. While taking on healthy risks and challenges individually and as a group, we rejoice in our successes. We also seek to support and challenge one another in our times of shortcomings and weakness.

**student and leader accountability**

In light of the Covenant and in the spirit of partnership and inclusion, we understand that the whole group may need to discuss any behavioral issues (except as limited by confidentiality). Discussions may be needed to explain circumstances, share feelings, develop solutions, seek reconciliation, and increase personal investment and accountability in the group. For any problem, we understand that every effort will be made in the spirit of grace to respond to each person as a child of God, include all points of view, build mutually trusting relationships, and meet the needs and interest of all individuals involved.

**behavioral problems**

Any student or leader behavior that threatens the values, spirit, or peace or his/herself, others or the group as a whole will be responded to directly through a meeting between the person(s) involved and the group leaders to discuss the issues and establish solutions. Examples of such behavior include, but are not limited to, physical violence, expletive language, put-downs, breaking ground rules established at activities, or any other hindrance to group commitment to the Covenant.

**dangerous behavior**

Any student or leader behavior that seriously threatens or shows disregard for the health and life of his/herself, others, or the group as a whole (as described, but not limited to, the items below) will be responded to by the group leader(s) as follows:

1. Use or possession of tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs, or prescription drugs not prescribed to the individual, or misuse of over the counter drugs, theft (shoplifting or stealing), and inappropriate sexual behavior are not allowed in the context of any youth ministry event because they are deemed beyond the

scope of youth ministry events, beyond the leadership capability, or they significantly threaten the individual, group unity, or other individuals. – **Any Offense: Parent/Guardian contact and participant removed from group and sent home at their own expense.**

2. Evidence of probable cause concerning any participants' violation of these guidelines may result in his or her belongings being searched by a leader to ensure group and individual safety. We ask you to read the Covenant and discuss it together as a family. Please read the handbook carefully and take special care to read and sign the Covenant.

**repeated poor behavior**

We understand that repeated poor behavior of any kind will have more serious consequences, such as parent/guardian conferences, restrictions on participation, or legal action.

**I, the undersigned, have willingly chosen to participate in activities related to REACH! (the youth ministry of First Presbyterian Church Charlotte). I agree to work toward the building of community by participating in all activities, possessing a positive attitude, showing respect for self, other youth, and adults and their possessions. I also agree to be encouraging, accepting, and open to faith building experiences. I will not bring or use controlled substances including drugs, tobacco products, or alcohol. I will not bring weapons or incendiary devices to youth activities. I will not participate in inappropriate sexual behavior during youth activities. I will strive to follow the example of Christ in behavior towards others. I understand the consequences for failing to abide by these guidelines may include, but are not limited to, a call to parents/guardians or being sent home.**

Youth Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Youth Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_