

## Germantown United Methodist Adult Leader Covenant

All adult leaders/chaperones will be expected to adhere to the following guidelines when around youth for any Youth Ministry event, program, or outing. This includes weekly programming, trips/retreats, and all other youth/adult interactions.

**In each of the items listed below, the aim is for all adults to strive, in every facet of their involvement, to serve as Christian role models and to maintain a focus on the overall health and safety of the young people in our care.**

1. Appropriate dress for the occasion will be required. Excessively tight or revealing clothing is prohibited. T-shirts, shorts (finger-tip length), and sandals are permissible (as these are age and work appropriate items).
2. Profanity is not accepted under any situation, nor is language that is degrading to any individual, group, or organization.
3. Adults will demonstrate appropriate leadership qualities in guiding the work/activities of young people in their charge, offering advice, support, and of course, corrective action in love when necessary.
4. Should there be an excessive behavior problem with a youth, the Youth Director will be approached and consulted with before any decisions are made.
5. Adults will be safety champions. Text messaging while driving is prohibited, as is any form of reckless driving. If an adult receives a phone call while driving, it is permissible to allow a youth in the passenger seat to answer. Calls not pertinent to the trip should be ignored and returned when there is a break in the commute (meal stops and rest stops).
6. Adults will not demonstrate any behaviors that will create personal discomfort for any individual or group.
7. Adults will never be partially or fully disrobed in front of members of the youth group, but should change clothes in an enclosed bathroom/private room.
8. Adults will adhere to the Safe Sanctuary Policy with no compromises (2 adult rule, rule for physical affection, and sleeping policy). Each year, each adult is expected to complete the online Safe Sanctuary Policy training program, as well as participate in a Safe Sanctuary Policy Training Session.
  - a. 2 adult rule means that no adult is to be alone with youth under any circumstances.
  - b. All Christian physical affection is limited to a side hug, initiated by a youth, and ended by an adult. A pat on the back or a high five is permissible from adult to youth.
  - c. No adult should ever be in the sleeping quarters of the opposite gender, except for in case of a medical emergency.
  - d. No adult should ever sleep in a bed with a youth under any circumstances. There will be at least 2 adults in each sleeping quarter.
9. Each adult will **engage** our youth as processor, motivator, encourager, and team player.
10. Each adult will **lead** our youth as activator, servant leader, and communicator.
11. Each adult will **uphold** Christ in their attitude, actions, and speech, understanding that their spiritual leadership is vital to our youths' experience.

I understand what is required of me as an adult through this covenant and commit to upholding each outlined policy. I also understand that any unwillingness to comply will result in my role as adult leader being terminated.

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Adult Leader Signature

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Name of Event

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Date