

ST. TIMOTHY'S YOUTH MINISTRY GENERAL ACTIVITY GUIDELINES

I. How We Treat Each Other

We will remember that Jesus said "Love thy neighbor as thyself" and treat the other members of the group with kindness and love. Respect will be shown by all to all. This includes respect for these guidelines and parameters given by leaders.

Youth are encouraged to promote a Christian attitude toward behavior among themselves, and to confront individuals who drift in a caring way. Activities should be inclusive, so as not to exclude anyone. Adults are encouraged to help the youth learn to deal with interpersonal issues in a constructive, Christian way.

Adult Leaders are responsible for dealing with problematic behavior that adversely affects anyone in the group. Abusive or sexually inappropriate behavior must be addressed immediately so that a safe environment is maintained at all times.

II. General Conduct Guidelines

Clothing should be appropriate to the situation. Adult leaders should intervene in situations where dress is overly revealing, or where inappropriate dress is a bad reflection on St. Timothy's in the particular situation. To avoid problem situations, Leaders should communicate dress guidelines in advance of an event.

Sleeping venues will be same sex.

Youth should be cautioned not to express dislike of meals provided by others, not to block passage ways and sidewalks, not to use a disproportionate share of supplies, seats, etc., and not to create an inappropriate disturbance.

III. Safety Guidelines

Leaders should review safety, behavior, and specific activity guidelines with the Youth preceding every activity.

Included in this review should be specific guidelines for maintaining contact with the adult leaders and the geographical "boundaries" to be used. These will vary, depending on the activity, the number and ages of the youth, and the safety of the environment.

If a situation will not allow visual contact to be maintained, a buddy system of three will be used.

No illegal drugs or alcohol. All medications must be reported to a Leader.

Safety belts must be worn during travel.

Parent permission slips allowing leaders to handle medical emergencies are required, and should include insurance and other pertinent information.

Life jackets are mandatory in small boat, canoe, and rafting situations, except during designated swimming periods.

Electronic devices other than for personal grooming are not allowed.

Group leaders are responsible for determining the safety of any activity.