

## Behavioral Expectations for UU Youth at First Unitarian Church, Louisville

(Revised September, 2004)

The following Behavioral expectations apply to all Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade) and High School (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) Youth. These behavior guidelines will enable us to care for and respect ourselves, our groups(s), our congregation, and our building.

We shall all:

- A **Observe common courtesy**, allowing all to enjoy their rights. Treat others as you wish to be treated.
- B **Use mutually respectful communication.**
  - 1. Consider other people's feelings before acting or speaking.
  - 2. Listen actively to other people's feelings and opinions.
  - 3. Avoid offensive language such as ethnic jokes, profanity, and negative comments about other religions or groups.
- C **Help everyone feel included at church.**
  - 1. support one another even in our differences.
  - 2. Avoid excluding others by forming cliques, or being affectionate with only one or a few people.
  - 3. No sexual activity of any kind.
- D **Be willing to identify and deal with differences.**
  - 1. Discuss problems, concerns, and differences honestly.
  - 2. be courteous and respectful when disagreeing.
- E **Observe and respect attendance guidelines.**
  - 1. In order to participate in any Youth Group special activity (such as Youth Cons, special outings, or social events), youth must attend a minimum of 4 of the last 8 regular youth group meetings prior to the event. Question about individual attendance records and eligibility for special events should be addressed to the youth advisors.
- F **Care for our congregation and building.**
  - 1. Walk while inside the church.
  - 2. Respect the physical limitations of other, including older members and young children.
  - 3. Clean up your own messes.
  - 4. Keep voices low so as not to interfere with other church activities.
  - 5. Use the phone only when necessary, keeping calls as brief as possible. Use church computers only for church business.
  - 6. Consider the effects of your apparel.
  - 7. No skateboards on church property.
- G **Protect everyone's safety.**
  - 1. Unsupervised youth are not allowed in classrooms.
  - 2. Honor the youth: adult ratios during all church youth activities. (Middle School – 5:1; Senior High – 7:1.) You may petition the YAC for a ratio change on a case-by-case basis, at least two weeks prior to the event.
  - 3. All youth events just have a minimum of two adults present.
  - 4. Stay with your church group unless you have specific approval for leaving it – in church or on outside activities.
  - 5. No violence or weapons of any kind.
- H **Do not engage in illegal activities.**
  - 1. No alcoholic beverages or other intoxicants.
  - 2. No smoking
  - 3. No illegal drugs.

I understand that participation in youth activities at First Unitarian Church is a privilege based on acceptance of the Behavioral Expectations. I understand that the Youth Advisor, R.E. Teachers, and event Sponsors are responsible for the well-being of the whole group, and the Youth are expected to follow their instructions and treat them with kindness and appreciation.

Signature of Youth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Or Legal Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_