

Behavioral Expectations for UU Youth at First Unitarian Church, Louisville

(Revised September, 2004)

The following Behavioral expectations apply to all Middle School (6th – 8th grade) and High School (9th – 12th 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: _____