

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
724 E South River Street, Appleton, WI 54915  
Church Phone: (920) 733-7393

## **2020 Mission Trip Adult Mentor & Work Sight Leader Covenant**

*Mentor: a term meaning someone who imparts wisdom to and shares knowledge with a less experienced colleague.*

1. The primary purpose of this mission trip is to fulfill God's special mission for us. All situations that arise are carefully weighed against fulfilling this calling.
2. As a mentor my primary role is to chaperone the youth by actively promoting faith practices and meaningful relationships, and promoting a safe, loving environment.
3. On the work sight my primary role is to coordinate the work with my designated work team during the day. I actively practice patience, understand myself as a teacher (not a task master or primary worker), and promote a loving and safe environment.
4. I will try to learn the names of the other participants in my assigned groups and not accidentally play favorites.
5. I will practice flexibility and positivity at all times. I will do my best to have fun!
6. I will be on time for all meetings and activities and participate fully. I will respect all local laws and ordinances.
7. Sensitive, personal issues may be brought directly to the Pastor one on one *as time allows*. All normal questions and concerns should also be brought to the Pastor. The Pastor will then respond about any concerns and questions that arise.

8. I pledge to discuss any significant concerns, conflicts, and decisions only with the appropriate leader using the skills listed below. I will respect and support the decisions of the group, and ultimately the Pastor.
9. I will communicate all pertinent medical information to the Pastor prior to the Mission Trip.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Helpful Conflict Management Skills**

- **Make sure that good relationships are the first priority:** As far as possible, make sure that you treat the other person calmly and that you try to build mutual respect. Do your best to be courteous to one-another and remain constructive under pressure. Be careful with your usage of humor.
- **Keep people and problems separate:** Recognize that in many cases the other person is not just "being difficult" – real and valid differences can lie behind conflictive positions. By separating the problem from the person, real issues can be debated without damaging important relationships.
- **Pay attention to the interests that are being presented:** By listening carefully you'll most likely understand why the person is adopting his or her position.
- **Listen first; talk second:** To solve a problem effectively you have to understand where the other person is coming from before defending your own position.
- **Set out the "Facts":** Agree and establish the objective, and observable elements that will have an impact on the decision.
- **Explore options together:** Be open to the idea that a third position may exist, and that you can get to this idea jointly.