

As a member of this team, I agree to:

1. Remember that I am representing Jesus Christ as well as Shady Grove United Methodist Church. I will model Jesus in my conduct, speech, and attitude. I will be positive and encouraging, and refrain from complaining, negative talk, or gossip. (Luke 10:27; Romans 12:4-6; Hebrews 10:24; James 3:9-11)
2. Remember that the trip leader and the host mission representative are the recognized authorities on the trip. I will respect these authorities and their decisions by being supportive and trusting in their positive intentions. Any defiance toward the trip leader or host mission representative is unacceptable. (Romans 13:1)
3. Remember not to go as an expert or with a “fix them” mentality. Instead, I will go as a learner and humble servant, open to other cultures and methods, as well as be open to what God might want to teach me. I will not have an attitude that suggests we or our ways are superior. (I Peter 4:8-10)
4. Acclimate to the host culture. I will respect the host’s cultural views of religion and Christianity recognizing that religious worship throughout the world is practiced in various cultural forms. I may also have to eat food that is unfamiliar or participate in foreign customs. (I Corinthians 9:22)
5. Follow the trip schedule and participate in all group functions. I know that permission to deviate from scheduled activities or separate from the group for any reason must be obtained from the trip leader. (Philippians 2:3)
6. Follow the dress code guidelines and dress appropriately. My appearance is important for both the missionary’s reputation and in the way the local people perceive me and Christianity. I may have to submit to certain restrictions regarding appearance, clothing, and social norms. (I Corinthians 9:19)
7. Be flexible. I know that travel can present numerous unexpected and undesired circumstances, but the rewards of overcoming such circumstances are innumerable. Instead of whining and complaining, I’ll be creative and supportive and adopt the attitude, “We don’t have problems – we have opportunities.” (I Corinthians 9:19)
8. Remember not to be exclusive in my relationships. If my boyfriend/girlfriend, spouse, or friend is on the team, we will make every effort to interact with all the members of the team. I will refrain from any activity that could be construed as romantic interest in a person encountered on a mission or teammate. Public displays of affection are not appropriate. (Philippians 2:1-2)
9. Abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages and using narcotics. It is also recommended that we abstain from using tobacco products. (1 Corinthians 8:9)
10. Attend team meetings before the trip as well as any follow-up meetings. (Romans 12:4-6)
11. Personally thank in writing all financial donors who contribute to my trip, including Shady Grove United Methodist Church if I received a scholarship from the church. (Philippians 1:3-5)
12. Remember that I can be sent home at my own expense if I do not adhere to this Covenant or if my Team Leader believes it is in my best interest or in the best interest of the team.

*I have read the Mission Trip Covenant above  
and agree to abide by the trip guidelines and expectations within.*

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Printed Name

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Signature (of parent if participant is under 18)

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Date

## Supportive Scripture for Covenant

Luke 10:27

*He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."*

Romans 12:4-6

*For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;*

Hebrews 10:24

*And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds,*

James 3:9-11

*With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water?*

Romans 13:1

*Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God.*

I Peter 4:8-10

*Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.*

I Corinthians 9:22

*To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some.*

Philippians 2:3

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.*

I Corinthians 9:19

*For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them.*

Philippians 2:1-2

*If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.*

1 Corinthians 8:9

*Take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.*

Philippians 1:3-5

*I thank my God every time I remember you, 4constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, 5because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.*