

July 15, 2010

Dear Parents and Students,

I hope that this summer has been a great one for you and your family! As I write this, we celebrating and recuperating from some powerful ministry in Pachacutec, Peru and Nashville, TN as our High School and Middle School students went to serve in Jesus' name. This year was no exception...each time we set out to serve others, our lives are changed. God is good and the blessings we've received this summer are countless. While we begin final preparations for the fall as well as catching some last minute family vacations ourselves, we are very excited to get back into the rhythm of the fall and worshipping together each week.

D-Group Registration:

Enclosed, you will find the D-Group Covenant for the coming school year. We understand that most of you are in D-Groups already, however we ask that you submit a new covenant each year. **If no changes are needed, your student may complete this form and return it to us or sign it with their D-Group on the first night back.** However, if changes are needed or there are issues to be addressed, this is your opportunity to make requests for changes in your groups or inform us of changes in your personal information. Signing these covenants each year reminds us of the purposes and commitments we make by participating in a D-Group. If you have not been involved in a D-Group to this point and would like to do so, now would be a great time to begin!

If any changes are needed, please return them no later than **Sunday, August 8th**. You may place the forms in the black drop box outside the youth center doors or return them by mail, Attn: Rhonda Berry. Of course, if changes are needed, the sooner I receive the form, the easier it will be to accommodate your request. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have or visit our D-Group web page at www.christunitedjxn.org/DGroups.

We are also still looking for at least one adult male and two adult female D-Group leaders to join our team. If this is something you may consider either now or in the future, please contact any Student Ministry staff right away.

Parent UpRising: August 11th

Wednesday night, August 11th, from 5:30-7:00, we are going to start the year with an important "Parent UpRising". We want ALL parents who will have a child attending UpRising and D-groups during the school year to come and get a basic picture of what we do on Wednesday nights. This will also be a great opportunity to meet your child's D-Group leader and partner with them on how to best minister to your child. We are very excited about how this can further our teamwork as we work together to raise youth to follow Jesus with their whole hearts. There will be special activities for the students this evening and we are exploring options for nursery and childcare. If you will need your younger children taken care of this evening, please let us know names and ages no later than Sunday, August 1st at students@christunitedjxn.org.

Back To School Bash:

Also, mark your calendars now for our fifth annual Back to School Bash and Tailgate Party the weekend of August 14-15th. Saturday evening, we invite you to meet us at the Youth Center with your D-Group at 6:00 PM to participate in a kick-off scavenger hunt. Following the scavenger hunt, the Youth Center will remain open until 10:00 PM for students and D-Group leaders to hang out as they desire. Renewal Sunday morning is always exciting as we re-group and re-focus for the next year. Rev. David Brownlee will begin his new sermon series, "Journey to the Center of the Faith." Sunday afternoon, we'll re-group from 4:30-6:30 PM in the court yard for our church-wide Tailgate Party. With this year's theme being "World Cup Fever," we can't wait to see the creativity and international flair that our D-Groups will bring to this event. If you have not already heard from your child's D-Group leader to begin plans for this weekend, please help them out with this effort! As always, we'll give prizes to the tailgates who are the Most Creative, Most Hospitable & have the Best Food. We'll enjoy inflatable games and more!

Here's the weekend in a nutshell:

Saturday:

6:00-8:00 PM Scavenger Hunt in D-Groups
8:00-10:00 PM Late Night in the YC

Sunday:

9:30 & 10:50 AM Renewal Sunday Services & One Sunday School each hour in the Youth Center
4:30-6:30 PM Church Wide Tail Gate Party (With D-Groups)

Each year we are blown away by the turnout and the creativity in your tailgates. We expect this year will be even better! See you in a few weeks!

Sincerely,
Jamie Ross
Middle School Minister
D-Groups & Confirmation
601-573-1365
jamie@christunitedjxn.org



2010-2011 MS D-Group Covenant

today's date: _____
name: _____
address: _____
date of birth (m/d/y): _____ **grade:** 7 8 9
home phone: _____ **cell phone:** _____
school: _____
e-mail address: _____ @ _____

(Please do not put parent's info here... if a student does not have a cell or e-mail, leave it blank!)

Please check one of the following boxes:

- I was in a D-Group last year. I'd like to remain in my same D-Group.
- I was in a D-Group last year and I'd like to talk with someone about changes for this year.
- I was not in a group last year. I understand that D-Groups are not always made up with my close friends, but these are four of the people I would like to be with:

Please read and initial each statement and sign at the bottom. Your parent's need to sign at the bottom as well.

1. I understand that MS D-Groups meet on Wednesday nights as part of the Middle School Bible Study from 5:30-7:00. _____
2. I understand that D-Groups are not necessarily made up of all my best friends. (Your D-Group may have some of your close friends in it, but it will also have people who are potential good friends.) _____
3. I commit to meeting with my D-Group on every week that I am able to meet. _____
4. I understand that D-Groups are open groups, not closed. This means that people may be added at any time to my group. If someone visits or is added to my group I will welcome them and make them feel part of the group. (In most cases groups will not be more than 10 people.) _____
5. I will respect the confidentiality of the other group members and not share anything outside of the group that was shared within the group. _____
6. I give the Student Ministry Staff the authority to put together the groups, and to handle any conflicts that may come up during the course of the school year. _____

Student's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date

2010/2011 CUMC STUDENT INFORMATION & ACTIVITY COVENANT

Student's Name: _____
Address: _____ City/Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Student Cell Phone: _____
Student E-mail: _____
School: _____ Grade: _____
Birthday: ____ / ____ / ____

Parent's Names: _____
Address: _____ City/Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Mother Cell: _____
Father Cell: _____
Mother E-mail: _____
Father E-mail: _____
Other Address (if needed): _____ (mother/father)
City/Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____

CUMC Student Ministry Activities Covenant

The following guidelines are in place to assure the best possible experience on church activities and events. Please read the following guidelines for CUMC Student Ministry activities and sign below.

1. I will obey the following rules:
 - No being out of the cabin/room after stated curfew (retreats and trips).
 - No gambling activities or perceived gambling activities.
 - No video games or laptop computers
 - No cell phones, MP3, CD or DVD players allowed on trips *unless* otherwise stated.
2. I understand that the following is not appropriate in any form for a CUMC activity and that if I ignore these guidelines, I may be dismissed from the activity:
 - Willfully vandalizing, in any way, property, whether it is the church's or someone else's
 - Cruelty to or intimidation of another student.
 - Possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, any other type of drugs or drug paraphernalia.
 - Possession or use of fireworks or weapons.
 - Possession or use of pornography, in any form.

I will follow the above guidelines and respect the CUMC leadership. I understand the consequences if I choose not to follow the rules.

Student Signature
More on Back

Date

2010/2011 CUMC MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM

NOTE: This form seeks authorization to make medical related decisions for your child when attending activities and events sponsored in whole or in part by Christ United Methodist Church during the 2010-2011 ministry year. Unless specified below, this authorization, when signed by any parent or guardian, will remain in full force and effect for any CUMC activity or event until expressly revoked in writing and delivered to the Office of Youth Ministry at CUMC.

Name of Child: _____

Child's Date of Birth: _____

The above child is covered under hospitalization insurance with _____ (name of company) pursuant to Policy No. _____ in the name of _____

Child has insurance card.

Family Doctor is: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Reaction to drugs: _____

Allergies: _____

Physical defects or limitations: _____

Blood type (if known): _____

Other medical information which might be necessary to the proper care of this child: _____

Any medicine which the child is presently taking: _____

Parents Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

I, the undersigned, being the Father/Mother of _____, a minor child, do hereby authorize the CUMC Youth Ministry to make provision for any medical care which may be deemed necessary by a licensed physician for said child and to make decisions or give any other consents which may be necessary for the health and welfare of said child at any time.

Parent Signature

Date