

St. Paul Youth Group Camping Retreat 2012

Acknowledgment of Risks and Release of Claims



Name of Participant (PRINT CLEARLY): _____

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian: _____

The safety and well being of each participant is of paramount importance to the retreat staff. All reasonable care and precautions are taken to ensure a fun, and educational experience. The following acknowledgment and release is both a requirement of insurance coverage and an important reminder to you as a parent to be sure that you are duly informed of inherent risks, and your child is properly prepared.

Outdoor adventure activities are exciting, challenging, and both physically and mentally demanding. Some activities may be stressful and possibly hazardous. The programs provide goal-oriented activities that offer participants an opportunity to explore new behaviors related to trust, teamwork, and leadership capabilities. These activities may include canoe trips, hikes, campfires, food preparation, field games, and low elements a few feet high that are constructed of rope, cable, and/or wood. All activities are supervised by instructors who have been specifically trained in the operation and up-to-date practices of challenge course or rock climbing. Our philosophy is Challenge by Choice, meaning that participants agree to choose their own level of challenge and agree not to be coerced by instructors or other participants.

St. Paul's Youth Group and its affiliates have taken precautions to provide proper equipment and qualified instructors. It is impossible, however, to guarantee absolute safety. While it is the aim and responsibility of the program and instructor to provide your child with an enjoyable, educational, and well managed experience, you must realize that there is a degree of risk and personal responsibility for safety when participating in adventure activities. Your child will receive instruction in up-to-date practices and risk management techniques related to all elements and activities and be supervised throughout the retreat. Participants are advised to call hazardous situations to the leader's attention.

Injuries can occur. By consenting to your child's participation, you assume all risks incidental to use of the course and activity, including the possibility of, but not limited to bruises, sprains, strains, cuts, broken bones, partial paralysis, or even death. Signing this form indicates your recognition and understanding of the responsibilities and hazards inherent in participation of activities such as those on the retreat. You agree to assume all responsibilities and risks involved in the program, and for yourself and your heirs to release and hold harmless St. Paul's R.C. Church and its affiliates, as well as, their officers and employees, from all claims and legal actions including attorneys fees, whether for property damage, physical injury or death due to transportation accidents, staff negligence, equipment, premises, or otherwise, arising from your child's participation in the program including but not limited to claims of your child, spouse, co-participants, rescuer or any third party. All prior understandings and representations between the parties are merged in this release form. This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. If one or more of the provisions contained herein be adjudged invalid and/or illegal, said determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining or unaffected provisions of this release.

Please confirm with your signature that you and your child have read this information, that your child agrees to follow instructions and directions given by the instructors, and that you have spoken to your child regarding acting with good judgment. Your voluntary signature demonstrates that you understand your responsibilities as a parent of a participant, and that you assume all of the risks incidental to this adventure retreat.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____