

Youth Council Applications

Welcome to the process of applying to the New Hope Presbytery Youth Council. We are a group of approximately 40 youth and 15 adults who are dedicated to serving the Lord through our churches and the youth of our Presbytery. Throughout the coming year we will offer several training events for youth council members, weekend retreats for the Middle School and High School youth, and many opportunities for fun, fellowship, and growth in your faith.

Youth Council members are expected to participate in at least three of the following events:

- August 21-23, 2009 August Training Retreat - \$50 ***Mandatory**
- October 23-25, 2009 High School Retreat - \$50
- January 29-30, 2010 Training Retreat– No Cost
- March 19-21, 2010 Middle School Retreat - \$50

The information above gives you a general idea of events, dates and costs to you. Please give these responsibilities prayerful consideration in your decision to complete this application.

Youth Council Applicants:

- Must be a confirmed member of a local congregation
- Must apply during the 9th, 10th or 11th grade to serve during the next school year
- Must submit application plus all attachments, including a current photo and be received by April 8, 2009
Late applications will not be considered.
- Must submit two indicated recommendation letters in sealed envelopes with the application

Youth Council Members:

- Will begin serving by participating in the August Training Retreat.
- Must remain active participants in their respective churches and youth ministry programs.
- Will adhere to the covenant and other responsibilities listed in the application.
- Will reapply to youth council annually, if they desire, at the January Training Day.

Important Information:

Youth Council membership is an important commitment to serving the youth of the Presbytery of New Hope. In order to have a well-rounded understanding of how the Youth Council works, attendance at the August Training Retreat is mandatory for membership on the Council.

Youth Council members may not drive themselves to events. The Presbytery provides transportation to the August and February Training events. Transportation to the other retreats is provided by your home church, advisor or by a member of the Youth Committee. Each Youth Council member is assigned a “Shepherd,” a member of the Youth Committee who will pray for you, contact you concerning events and guide you in your role as a Youth Council member.

Application Procedure:

- If you are interested in applying to the New Hope Presbytery Youth Council please complete the application, read and agree to the covenant by signing it.
- Ask a pastor or elder of your church to complete a recommendation and place in a sealed, signed envelope and return it to you.
- Ask your youth leader to complete a recommendation and place in a sealed, signed envelope and return it to you.
- Return the completed application, the covenant, both recommendations, and a recent photo as a packet to:

**The Presbytery of New Hope
Attn: René Baker
2309 Sunset Ave.
Rocky Mount, NC 27804**

All applications must be received by April 8, 2009. Youth Council membership is not guaranteed and the fall training event is **mandatory to acceptance**. Applicants will be notified by May 15, 2009.

Contact Information:

Questions should be directed to Amy Veatch, Moderator or Sam Jones, Vice-Moderator of the Youth Committee. Amy can be reached by email at amy@veatchwright.com or by phone at (919) 264-7977. Sam can be reached by email at spongecake34@gmail.com or by phone at (252) 330-4113.

Youth Council Application

The Presbytery of New Hope

THE YOUTH MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT

The Youth Ministry Committee and the Youth Council of the Presbytery of New Hope provide programs for all Youth and their Leaders to promote the ministry, praise, study, and worship of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As the Body of Christ, we are called by God to:

- Lead and show love to all
- Offer support and give guidance
- Serve at retreats, Youth Council training, and to our peers
- Spiritual growth in our faith
- Share the good news of Christ with others

With all of these underlined with the love and compassion of Jesus Christ, we as Youth Council members can commit our resources, time, and talents to the building and strengthening of these ministries, and encourage active leadership of our Youth in our churches.

THE YOUTH COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES Responsibilities of the Youth Council of the Presbytery of New Hope include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. To serve as a Small Group Leader, Workshop Assistant, &/ or Activities Leader for both 6th-8th Grade and 9th -12th Grade Youth Ministry events sponsored by the Presbytery of New Hope;
2. To be actively present* at three of the four events including the mandatory August Training Retreat.
3. To maintain an atmosphere of confidentiality & work toward peaceful resolutions with regard to issues of the Youth Council.
4. To be a motivator for participants at Youth events.
5. To be a representative of the church of which you are an active member.

**Actively present* is defined as participation in three keynote/worship sessions.

THE YOUTH COUNCIL COVENANT

We, the members of the Presbytery Youth Council, acknowledge our calling, our gifts, our responsibilities, and our unique opportunities to express our faith. As God is an inseparable part of our very existence, we realize the inclusive nature of our tasks. In addition, we come to know leadership as a shared experience. This allows us to reach out with love, hope, compassion, and support to those whom we serve. We recognize our bodies as sacred dwelling places for God's Holy Spirit; and understand our responsibility to provide the highest possible level of physical and emotional care for our bodies, minds, and spirits. We know our fear and imperfections; however, we accept our tasks and we pray through the Holy Spirit to seek new means of faithful expression in the world we share with all creation.

THE PARTICIPATION COVENANT

To build a Christian community, I willingly choose to do the following:

- Participate whole-heartedly
- Be truthful
- Listen to and respond to everyone's needs
- Respect my elders
- Follow all rules, presbytery and otherwise
- Abstain in illegal activities (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, & flammables)
- Handle sexuality responsibly
- Not leave premises without an adult
- Help everyone at the retreat to follow all rules and bond in Christ's name

I understand that upon breaking this covenant my parents will be responsible for my immediate return from a Youth Council event. I have read the above responsibilities and covenant and agree to abide by these guidelines if selected to serve on Youth Council.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Youth Council Application
The Presbytery of New Hope

Applicant Information:

Full name: _____ Year in School _____

Preferred name: (What should we call you?) _____

Complete mailing address: (Street) _____

(Apt, etc) _____

(City/Town) _____

(ZIP) _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Email: _____

Preferred mode of contact:

Home Phone Cell Phone Email

Preferred time for phone call: _____

Emergency contact: _____ Emergency number: _____

Name of church representing (with town/city): _____

Birth date: _____ Confirmation date: _____

Recommendations by:

Name of Youth Leader/Director: _____

Name of Minister/Elder: _____

Applicant Questions:

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this form. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers. We are just hoping to get a "snapshot" of you. Think of it as an interview. When answering these questions, feel free to discuss them with your parents, pastor, advisors, or any member of the Youth Committee.

- What is your understanding of the purpose of the Youth Council?
- What led you to apply to be a member of the Youth Council, and how did your faith impact this decision?
- This is a position of service. How do you serve your family, church, friends, school and community?
- How do you spend your time? What are your other commitments of time and responsibility? How do you spend your free time? How do you plan to balance Youth Council with everything else?

Applicant's Agreement:

In signing below, I affirm that I will abide by the Youth Council Covenant and give priority to the Youth Council responsibilities that come with the duties of the Presbytery of New Hope Youth Council. I realize that failure to do so may result in removal from Youth Council.

Youth Council Applicant's signature: _____

Applicant's Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Date: _____

Return packet to: Youth Committee, Presbytery of New Hope, 2308 Sunset Ave. Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Youth Council Recommendation
The Presbytery of New Hope

Youth Leader/Director – Reference

General Information:

Applicant's name: _____

Name of church representing (with town/city): _____

Youth Leader/Director's full name: _____

Complete mailing address: (Street) _____

(Apt, etc) _____

(City/Town) _____

(ZIP) _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Preferred mode of contact: Home Work Cell

Preferred time: _____

Recommendation Questions:

Please provide a brief answer to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this form.

- What is your relationship with the Youth Council Applicant?
- Do you believe that this Applicant could lead a group of ten 6th – 8th grade and/or 9th – 12th grade students with enthusiasm and authority? On what do you base this belief?
- How is the applicant an active participation in your church's youth ministry program? Please describe if the applicant serves in a leadership position in your church or your youth ministry.
- How would you describe the applicant's dependability? Please provide examples.
- Do you have any reservations about this Applicant serving as a leader for the Presbytery of New Hope Youth Ministry? If so, please describe.

Youth Leader/Director's Agreement:

In signing below, I affirm my responses to this recommendation from and will accept this Youth Council Applicant's role as a representative of this church, if selected. I will strive in every way to stay in contact with this Youth Council Applicant, helping them continue to grow in faith and maintain their responsibility as a representative to the Presbytery of New Hope.

Youth Leader/Director's signature: _____

Date: _____

Return completed form to the Applicant in a sealed envelope.

Youth Council Recommendation
The Presbytery of New Hope

Minister/Elder - Reference

General Information:

Applicant's name: _____

Name of church representing (with town/city): _____

Minister/Elder's Full Name: _____

Complete mailing address: (Street) _____

(Apt, etc) _____

(City/Town) _____

(ZIP) _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Preferred mode of contact: Home Work Cell

Preferred time: _____

Recommendation Questions:

Please provide a brief answer to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this form.

- What is your relationship with the Youth Council Applicant?
- Do you believe that this Applicant could lead a group of ten 6th – 8th grade and/or 9th – 12th grade students with enthusiasm and authority? On what do you base this belief?
- How is the applicant an active participant in the church's youth ministry program? Please describe if the applicant serves in a leadership position in the church or youth ministry.
- How would you describe the applicant's dependability? Please provide examples.
- Do you have any reservations about this Applicant serving as a leader for the Presbytery of New Hope Youth Ministry? If so, please describe.

Pastor/Elder's Agreement:

In signing below, I affirm my responses to this recommendation and will accept this Youth Council Applicant's role as a representative of this church, if selected. I will strive in every way to stay in contact with this Youth Council Applicant, helping him/her to grow in faith and maintain his/her responsibility as a representative to the Presbytery of New Hope. Minister/Elder's Signature:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return completed form to the Applicant in a sealed envelope.

Revised 02.26.09