

# God's Love Uniting Everyone

## **G.L.U.E. YOUTH GROUP**

Wednesdays 7-8:30 pm & Sundays 12:15-1:30pm

### **Youth Group (GLUE) Guidelines – Parents and other adults**

As the Deltona Presbyterian Youth Group (GLUE) expands, clear guidelines need to be set forth to ensure youth have a safe, positive, nurturing environment in which they can make their faith journey. These guidelines are in addition to the basic rules that mimic the school rules youth are already familiar with at this point in their academic careers. Please remember that these are general guidelines; volunteers judge each situation by its own peculiarities.

- GLUE membership will be **considered** once the youth has entered sixth grade or turned 11. In some circumstances, youth will be allowed to attend beginning in fifth grade (age 11) - **if** deemed mature enough by the adult volunteers. In situations where a youth is deemed to lack maturity, s/he will be asked to refrain from attending until reevaluation at the start of the following semester. (While Wednesday nights do not have something specific for those who are not ready for GLUE, Sunday has two opportunities for time with children and youth.)
- GLUE membership officially ends the first day of the fall term following completion of high school, giving graduates the summer to transition out of GLUE.
- Those visiting from college are welcome to visit during school-year breaks. Participation of college students in events during summer break will be judged on a case-by-case basis by the volunteers. After age 21, former youth may be screened as volunteers for the GLUE.
- The facilities are graciously provided by the church. It is expected that each youth will help maintain the facility by (a) cleaning up after him/herself; (b) cooperating when asked to perform a task to maintain or enhance the overall cleanliness of the room; (c) each youth will respect the property outside of the youth room by not kicking, slamming doors, running without permission, or other activities that may do damage to the facilities.
- Whether on or off church campus, youth will conduct themselves in a way that shows support and respect for those around, including appropriate language and non-disruptive behavior. Showing respect for everyone you come in contact with, by your actions and your words is a way of living what your youth said s/he wants to be part of when joining GLUE. This means making fun of others, cutting each other down, or purposely misquoting someone is **not** acceptable.
- During GLUE, youth will refrain from using their personal devices. This is a time for us to spend together, not connecting with others not in the room.

- Dress code: It is important that our dress is appropriate. It is our intention to be holy and pleasing to God. Clothing should not be disruptive or bring unnecessary attention to the wearer. If it would not be worn to a family gathering, church on Sunday morning, or to school, then chances are you should not wear it to GLUE. Should youth dress in an inappropriate manner s/he will be asked to put on different clothes or parents will be called to either bring new clothing or to take the youth home.
- No PDA out of respect for: (a) the various age groups and maturity levels within GLUE; (b) the fact that the focus should be on bonding with everyone and growing in/exploring faith – not romantic bonding.
- Bullying of any type will not be tolerated. Those deemed to be bullying will be asked to leave if measures suggested by the volunteers to correct the behavior are not taken in a timely fashion.
- Youth who disrespect any adult volunteer will be asked to leave and refrain from returning until such time that they can successfully complete a GLUE session without being disrespectful.
- Common courtesy and respect are expected from parents. Continued disrespect of volunteers will result in the youth being asked not to return until such time that the parent/guardian can act respectfully.
- Each youth attending an event will be asked to make a deposit for the event to secure a spot on the trip – even if the trip ends up being of little or no cost to the youth. Excess funds for the excursion will be refunded to the family at the end of the event. For many events, the church pays ahead of time. If youth sign up for an event and do not attend, the money used to pay for the youth's fees for the activity is lost. In some circumstances, youth have had to be excluded due to limited availability. If a youth RSVPs yes, then does not participate, it also affects youth who had to be turned away.
- Youth who do not participate in fundraisers and/or GLUE will have to pay full price for activities. Costs will be on a sliding scale, based on participation in GLUE and related activities.
- If there are special circumstances preventing participation in youth events, such as financial difficulties or transportation issues, please see a volunteer or the Pastor. Arrangements can be made to accommodate everyone, but ONLY if someone is aware of what is happening.
- Transportation varies, depending on the events. Before a volunteer can transport a youth, a permission slip MUST be on file with the church.
- Youth driving: The church does not endorse youth driving other youth to events. In the event youth do drive other youth to events (siblings, for example), the church and its volunteers are not responsible.

- If a youth drives him/herself to an event, s/he may not leave the event with another youth.

Regular meetings:

- Wednesday night GLUE meets weekly at Deltona Presbyterian Church and begins at 7pm, and dismisses at 8:30 pm.
- We meet once a month at Dwight Hawkins Park as part of our community involvement for clean-up before we have recreation time.
- Youth Sunday School meets weekly on Sundays from 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm.
- Parents are expected to provide transportation to weekly events.

### **Youth Group (GLUE) Guidelines – Youth**

As the Deltona Presbyterian Youth Group (GLUE) grows, clear guidelines need to be in place so you have a safe place to explore your faith. These guidelines are in addition to the basic rules that are like the rules you already know from school. Please remember that these are general guidelines; volunteers judge each situation separately.

- GLUE membership *can* start when you start sixth grade or turn 11. In some cases, you will be allowed to attend beginning in fifth grade (age 11) - **if** the adult volunteers think you'll be able to handle the activities, discussions, and the privileges and responsibilities that are part of being a GLUE member. If the time is right for you, we will reconsider your membership later in the year.
- GLUE membership officially ends the first day of school after you graduate high school.
- Those visiting from college are welcome to visit during school-year breaks. Participation of college students in *special events* during summer break will be judged on a case-by-case basis by the volunteers. After age 21, former youth may be screened as volunteers for GLUE.
- The facilities are graciously provided by the church. It is expected that each of you will help maintain the facility by (a) cleaning up after yourself; (b) cooperating when asked to do something to maintain or improve the overall cleanliness of the room; (c) each of you will respect the property outside of the youth room by not kicking, slamming doors, running within the buildings without permission, or other activities that may do damage to the facilities.

- Whether on or off church campus, you will conduct yourself in a way that shows support for those around, including appropriate language and non-disruptive behavior. Showing respect for everyone you come in contact with, by your actions and your words is a way of living what you say you want to be part of when you join GLUE. This means making fun of others, cutting each other down, or purposely misquoting someone is **not** acceptable. FYI – liking someone, acting politely, and respecting someone are NOT the same thing. You can dislike someone, yet be respectful and polite, as expected.
- During GLUE, you will not use personal devices. This is a time for us to spend together, not for you to connect with others not in the room. For certain events, we will specifically say you may use your device.
- Dress code: It is important that our dress is appropriate. It is our intention to be holy and pleasing to God. Clothing should not be disruptive or bring unnecessary attention to the wearer. If you would not wear it to a family gathering, church on Sunday morning or to school, then chances are you should not wear it to GLUE. Should you dress in an inappropriate manner you will be asked to put on different clothes, or your parents will be called to bring you new clothing or to take you home.
- No PDA out of respect for: (a) the various age groups and maturity levels within GLUE; (b) the fact that the focus should be on bonding with everyone and growing in/exploring faith – not romantic bonding.
- Bullying of any type will not be tolerated. If your actions are determined to be bullying, you will be given a chance – and suggestions of how - to correct the situation. If that does not happen, you will be asked to leave.
- If you disrespect any adult volunteer, you will be asked to leave and not return until you can successfully complete a GLUE session without being disrespectful.
- If attending an event, you will be asked to make a deposit for the event to secure a spot on the trip – even if the trip ends up being of little or no cost. Excess funds for the trip will be returned to your families at the end of the event. For many events, the church pays ahead of time. If you sign up for an event and do not attend, the money used to pay for your fees for the activity is lost and/or someone else who could've gone had to be turned away.
- If you do not participate in fundraisers and/or GLUE, you will have to pay full price for activities. Costs will be on a sliding scale, based on your participation in GLUE and related activities.
- If there are special circumstances preventing you from participating in youth events, such

as money or issues getting a ride, please see a volunteer or the Pastor. Arrangements can be made to accommodate everyone, but ONLY if someone is aware of what is happening.

- The church does not support youth driving other youth to/from events.
- If you drive to an event, you may NOT leave the event with another youth. Those who do not drive to an event may NOT leave with a youth who drives. In either case, it is expected that youth will remain for the entire event, unless otherwise informed BY A PARENT.
- If you choose to drive – or ride with – a youth, neither the church nor the volunteers are responsible. (This is specifically for siblings. Youth driving non-relatives is discouraged.)
- Consequences of violating these rules will be immediate and certain.
- Keep a positive attitude.
- And on a lighter note – if you don't wash your hands, no food for you! There is a sink in our room with soap, water, and paper towels. Sanitizer when a sink is not available is acceptable.

***Remember that you are an ambassador for Christ, GLUE, and this church. As such, your actions and words provide either a good or bad example. Also, your behavior reflects on your parents and the group as a whole. How do you want to be seen?***

### **Youth Group (GLUE) Excursion Guidelines**

- ▶ Stick with a buddy at all times.
- ▶ If you switch buddies, let an adult AND your previous buddy know.
- ▶ Out of respect for those around you, keep your voice down to a normal tone or whisper as the situation warrants.
- ▶ ALWAYS let a volunteer know where you are going.
- ▶ Follow basic safety guidelines, including: not telling strangers where you're from, who you're with, how much money you have with you. Follow the rules of the road.

## **Consequences of Inappropriate Behavior While on Trips**

Disruptive or unsafe behavior on trips will not be tolerated. Disruptive and unsafe behavior includes any violation of the GLUE Guidelines as well as specific rules imposed for that trip. The final authority determining what is and is not considered disruptive and unsafe behavior will be the GLUE volunteers.

Consequences will be progressive:

**First Offense:** Youth will contact his or her parent(s) to explain the problem. An adult will speak to the parent in order to ensure that the parent understands the situation.\* Appropriate consequences will be enforced on the trip.

*Example: A youth intentionally disregards the physical boundaries and walks across the street to Starbucks. The youth will call his or her parents, and everyone will have a discussion. As an appropriate consequence, that youth will have an opportunity to form a lasting relationship with a chaperone (or the team of chaperones) for the remainder of the trip.*

**Second Offense:** Youth will be sent home at his or her own expense. The youth will contact his or her parent (s) to explain the problem and arrange for transportation home. An adult will speak to the parent in order to ensure that the parent understands the situation.\* Additionally, the youth will not be allowed to participate in ANY DPC activities away from the church building for a minimum of three months.

Further determination of appropriate consequences will be made by GLUE volunteers, including whether or not a violation of the rules is serious enough to warrant immediate return home or other consequence not listed here.

\*May be conducted via speakerphone so the conversation can be fluid



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### **Acknowledgment and Acceptance of Guidelines**

*Each youth must have this on file in order to participate in GLUE. Youth have two meetings as a grace period before s/he will be asked to have a parent to bring the completed forms to the church, in order to continue participating in GLUE activities.*

As a youth in the Deltona Presbyterian Church Youth Group (GLUE), I have heard the guidelines explained and discussed, and prayerfully read and understand DPC's GLUE General Conduct Code. I choose to adhere to it at all DPC GLUE functions.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

As a parent of a youth in the Deltona Presbyterian Church Youth Group (GLUE), I have prayerfully read and understand DPC's GLUE General Conduct Code. I further understand the guidelines apply during regular meetings AND special events.

I support the Code of Conduct and expect my child to adhere to it at all times. I understand that I may be called upon to take immediate action if my youth's behavior(s) dictate that course of action and will cooperate with the volunteers.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

### ***Photo and Video Release***

I permit Deltona Presbyterian Church to share my youth's image when sharing pictures and videos of events my youth participated in.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Thank you,  
The GLUE Volunteers at Deltona Presbyterian Church