

## **La VERNE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN YOUTH TRIP GUIDELINES**

*Youth are a vital part of the church community here at the La Verne Church of the Brethren. Their presence and participation in the life of the church and the denomination are enriching, encouraged, and highly valued. As a regular part of the church's youth ministry, young people are given opportunities to participate in conferences, seminars and camps, many of which involve travel. The La Verne congregation recognizes that these experiences can be life changing and group building, as well as challenging for both youth and adults. In order to ensure safety and good spirit for all those involved in these trips, the following guidelines are now stated:*

### **1. Youth who plan to use resources from the Youth Fellowship Savings Fund need to participate in fundraisers.**

- *Money will be dispersed according to participation. This ensures that youth that work for funds get to use them. Participation may include volunteering before or after an event if a youth cannot be present on that day. Parental/guardian involvement, while important, will not be considered an even substitution for a youth's personal participation.*

### **2. Youth are encouraged to participate in church and youth activities.**

- *Participation in these activities develops relationships between youth and their peers, as well as between the youth and the adult chaperones who will travel with them. Friends from outside the church are welcome to participate in trip events and they are also encouraged to participate in the life of the church, as they are able.*

### **3. A group meeting will be held prior to the trip to go over details, introduce all participants, and discuss and concerns of parents/guardians, youth and adult chaperones.**

- *Parents/guardians and youth are expected to attend together and any that are unable to do so are asked to make alternative arrangements to meet with the adults who will be traveling with the group. A relationship between the chaperones, parents/guardians and youth provides a clear line of communication, fosters accountability and also adds a greater sense of security for everyone while the youth are "on the road".*

**Developed by the Christian Education Commission. Effective 9/1/01.**

*Recognizing that there may be exceptions to these guidelines, individual circumstances will be reviewed by the Children and Youth Ministry Staff.*