



New Life

Christian Reformed Church

Cadet Handbook

2019/2020

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Then you will call on me and
come and pray to me, and I
will listen to you.
Jeremiah 29:12

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Introduction

This handbook is intended to give the Cadet and parents guidelines on how the Cadet ministry is run at New Life Christian Reformed Church.

1) What is expected of a Cadet.

These expectations are guidelines to help you form goals and know what you should be doing as a Cadet:

- a. Learn to grow – This is the primary reason you are here. You should be learning about God, yourself, your skills, and how to relate to others. You should be willing to grow spiritually, physically, mentally, and socially. This all will happen when you participate actively and energetically in Cadets.
- b. Put forth reasonable effort – you should be trying to use the best of your abilities in all Cadet activities. This includes Bible lessons, merit badges, projects, games and fund raisers.

2) Opening exercises

The head counselor will choose one Cadet to be Cadet of the night to lead the opening and closing exercises. Being prepared and in full uniform will help a Cadet to be chosen.

See opening exercises handout.

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3) Uniform Requirements

2nd - 3rd Grade - The uniform is yellow Jr. Cadet Shirt with a blue kerchief and slide.

4th – 8th grade – The uniform is Grey shirt with Living for Jesus, Illiana, Cadre, and 5620 patches. Blue kerchief with slide. Shirt must be tucked in.

4) Merit Badge System

Cadets will be working on completing merit badges at our regular meetings. The boys are encouraged to work on merit badges at home and bring any projects and their guidebook to Cadets so the counselor can sign off on the paperwork and give credit for the merit badge.

2nd -3rd graders merit badges are sewn onto the kerchief.

4th-8th grader merit badges are attached to the merit badge sash and sewn onto the uniform.

5) Point System

Points are awarded for the following categories. At the end of the year each Cadet can use their points for bidding on items during the awards night auction.

- a. Uniform: 10 points will be awarded for wearing their complete uniform to regular meetings.
 - i. 2nd - 3rd Grade - Yellow Jr. Cadet Shirt with a blue kerchief and slide.
 - ii. 4th – 8th grade – Grey shirt with Living for Jesus, Illiana, Cadre, and 5620 patches. Blue kerchief with slide. Shirt must be tucked in.
Points will be deducted if any uniform components are missing.
- b. Guidebook: 5 points will be awarded for bringing their guidebook to regular meetings.
- c. Bible: 5 points will be awarded for bringing their bible to regular meetings.
- d. Participation/behavior: 5 points will be awarded for participation and behavior during regular meetings. Points will be given at the discretion of the counselor.
- e. Bring a friend: 15 points will be awarded to any Cadet that brings a friend to a meeting.
- f. Cadet of the Night: 15 points will be awarded to the Cadet of the night.
- g. Personal Devotions: 3 points per day of 15 minutes of personal devotions that the cadet completes on his own. A personal devotion sheet must be signed by the parent and turned in at the next meeting.
- h. Merit Badges: 20 points will be awarded for each completed merit badge done as a group and 40 points for each merit badge completed on your own. See the Guidebook for information on badges and ranks.
- i. Rank Advancement: 75 points will be awarded for completing all requirements for a specific rank.
- j. Special Events: Extra points will be awarded for special events. The number of points will be announced with the event. Full uniform is required, unless otherwise noted, or no points will be awarded.

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6) Discipline

Discipline is the subject we least like to address, but some format must be established to maintain order. Hopefully the points system will take care of all disciplinary situations. If a situation arises in which behavior needs to be addressed, the counselor and head counselor will meet with the boy. He will be told of the improper behavior and given a warning. If the behavior continues, the parents of the boy will be called.

7) House Guidelines

- a. Cadets meet in the church basement. Cadets are not allowed upstairs for any reason unless instructed by a counselor.
- b. No cell phones or other electronic devices should be used or seen during the meeting. These devices should be left at home or remain silent and out of sight during Cadet meetings. If a device is out during the meeting, the boy will be asked to put it away. If it is seen a second time, the counselor will confiscate the device and return it to a parent at the end of the meeting.
- c. No running except in the fellowship area of the basement.
- d. No playing in the bathrooms.
- e. Clean up your room after the meeting. Put away Chairs, pens, bibles, or anything else used during the meeting. Pick up any trash. Rooms should be left cleaner than when we started.
- f. Clean up the project room. All tools and project materials should be put away. Tables and floor should be swept or vacuumed.

8) Schedule of activities

A calendar for the Cadet year will be provided. We do our best to plan in advance, however details and dates may change. We will send out notification to give as much warning as possible.

9) Camporee

Every 3 years there is an international camporee. There are several requirements for the camporee that you should be aware of.

- a. Must be 11 years old on or before December 31 of the year of the Camporee. For the 2020 Camporee boys must be 11 by December 31, 2020.
- b. The following badges must be completed; Knots and Lashing, Axemanship, Fire Building, and Camp Cooking.
- c. Complete the Camporee Certification course.
- d. The Camporee will be in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in 2020.

The New Life CRC Cadets will have additional fund raising opportunities to help offset the cost of the Camporee.