

## Statement of Christian Service

"The man or woman of God is called to continually be transformed into the image of Christ in mind, heart and spirit. The call of every believer is to be in such an intimate relationship with the Lord that this transformation is a continual and ongoing process. Granted, we are all still in the process of being transformed into the likeness of Christ, and we all wrestle with the issue of sin. Yet, as DeColores volunteers we are called to be living a lifestyle that is consistent with this spiritual process (Philippians 1:6). We believe this lifestyle is reflected in the following manner:

Love God with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength. (Mark 12:30) Love your neighbor as yourself. (Mark 12:31)

Demonstrate the "fruits of the Spirit" which are love, joy peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23)

Our personal conduct is one that would show Christ to our neighbors, invite them into the family of God, and see them come to a personal relationship with Him. (Matthew 28:19-20)

Our marital life is one that is lived in heterosexual monogamy characterized by self-control, respect, sobriety, teaching the truth of God and obedience to the laws of man. (1 Timothy 3: 12 and Titus 1 :6-9)

Our single life is one that is lived free of sexual relations. (Acts 15:20)

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians, he speaks to issues of moral sin - "Surely you know that the people who do wrong will not inherit God's kingdom. Do not be fooled. Those who sin sexually, worship idols, take part in adultery, those who are male prostitutes, or men who have sexual relations with other men. (Women with other women; see Romans 1:25-27), those who steal, are greedy, get drunk, lie about others, or rob; these people will not inherit God's kingdom." (1 Corinthians 6:9-10) (NCV)

We are all sinners at one time, but in coming to Christ these sins were put under the blood and confessed as being contrary to the very heart and nature of God. Therefore, by His grace and the Holy Spirit, we do not practice or walk in them anymore. Paul states this in the following verse, "In the past, some of you were like that, but you were washed clean. You were made holy, and you were made right with God in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God." (1 Corinthians 6:11) (NCV)

Because it is not our desire to put a stumbling block in the way of a brother or sister (Romans 14:13), it is the position of the Northern Michigan DeColores Ministries that any volunteer who is not able to put these types of moral sins in the past tense should not serve on a team. It is the commitment of every team member to be able to say that he or she is living a life characterized by a high moral and biblical standard in the sight of man, but more importantly, in the sight of God, who is the discernor of the heart. Inside team members are positioning themselves as role models and mentors developing Godly character within the lives of candidates. As such, persons living or advocating a lifestyle which openly or secretly does not currently reflect Godly character should not accept a position to serve as an inside team member on a DeColores weekend.

As volunteers we are making a statement that it is our highest commitment to represent Jesus Christ in the flesh. Consequently our behavioral example should be Jesus himself. Our actions and lifestyles should reflect His teaching as presented in the Bible, which we accept as the true Word of God.

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and agree to this Statement of Christian Service.

Other supporting scripture: Colossians 3:15; Ephesians 5:25-30; II Timothy 2:14-26