

SAFE SANCTUARIES COVENANT STATEMENT
GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (BARTLETT) - 2017

The congregation of GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth, workers, staff, and volunteers who participate in ministries and activities sponsored by the church. The following policy statements reflect our congregation's commitment to preserving this church as a holy place of safety and protection for all who enter and as a place in which all people can experience the love of God through relationships with others.

1. No adult who has been convicted of child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, emotional abuse, or ritual abuse) should volunteer to work with children or youth in any church sponsored activity.
2. All volunteers and staff involved with children or youth of our church must have been members of the congregation for at least six months before beginning a volunteer assignment.
3. All volunteers and staff with children and youth shall observe the "Two Adult Rule" at all times so that no adult is left alone with children or youth on a routine basis.
4. All volunteers and staff with children and youth shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep volunteers informed of church policies and state laws regarding child abuse.
5. All volunteers and staff shall immediately report to the supervisor any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

Please answer the following questions:

1. As a volunteer or staff person in this congregation, do you agree to observe and abide by all church policies regarding working in ministries with children and youth? Yes No
2. As a volunteer or staff person in this congregation, do you agree to observe the "Two Adult Rule" at all times? Yes No
3. As a volunteer or staff person in this congregation, do you agree to abide by the "Six Month Rule" before beginning a volunteer assignment? Yes No
4. As a volunteer or staff person in this congregation, do you agree to participate in training and education events provided by the church related to your volunteer assignment? Yes No
5. As a volunteer or staff person in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to your supervisor(s), the pastor, or a member of the S/PPRC? Yes No
6. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to inform the pastor of this church if you have ever been convicted of child abuse? Yes No
7. As a volunteer or staff person in this congregation, do you agree to be careful in your electronic communications and online presence, considering with care your influence on others, particularly the children and youth with whom you are working? Yes No
8. As volunteer or staff person in this congregation, with regards to calls, texts, emails, and social media, do you agree to communicate with children/youth only by the approval of parent(s)/guardian(s)?
 Yes No

As a volunteer or paid staff person in this congregation, do you agree to submit to a new background check, training, and covenant statement every 2 years? Yes No

I have read this SAFE SANCTUARIES PARTICIPATION COVENANT STATEMENT, and I agree to observe and abide by the policies set forth above.

Signature: _____ Full Printed Name: _____ Date: _____