

Safe Sanctuaries Participation Covenant Statement

The congregation of Mount Zion United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth, 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 would enter and as a place in which all people can experience the love of God through relationships with others.

1. Anyone who has been convicted of any type of abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, or emotional abuse) **will not** be allowed to volunteer to work with children or youth in any church-sponsored activity.
2. All adult volunteers working with children or youth must be members or regular attendees of Mount Zion for at least six months before starting a volunteer assignment.
3. Adult volunteers working with children and youth will observe the "Two Adult Rule" at all times, so that no adult is left alone with children or youth on a routine basis.
4. Adult volunteers working with children or youth will review the Mount Zion Safe Sanctuaries Policy annually and complete and sign this covenant.
5. Adult volunteers will immediately report to their ministry leader any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

Please answer the following questions:

1. As a volunteer 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 in this congregation, do you agree to observe the "Two Adults Rule" at all times? Yes No
3. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to observe and abide by the "Six Month Rule" before beginning a volunteer assignment? Yes No
4. As a volunteer 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 in this congregation, do you agree to give permission for a background check, if required? Yes No
(Note: If you have had a background check in the last two years, then you need to submit proof.)
6. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to your supervisor(s)? Yes No
7. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to inform a pastor of this church if you are convicted or have ever been convicted of child abuse? Yes No

I have read this Safe Sanctuaries Participation Covenant Statement, and I agree to observe and abide by the policies set forth above.

Email

Signature

Date

Print Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip