

Safe Sanctuaries Covenant Statement



The congregation of Glen Mar United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth, vulnerable adults, youth and adult volunteers, and paid staff members 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. No youth or adult who has been convicted of child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, emotional abuse or ritual abuse) should volunteer or be paid to work with children, youth or vulnerable adults in any church sponsored activity.
2. All new youth, adult volunteers and paid staff members involved with children, youth or vulnerable adults of our church must serve with a person who is established and experienced in the program for six months before being allowed to work in a leadership role with children, youth or vulnerable adults.
3. Adult volunteers and paid staff members with children, youth and vulnerable adults shall observe the "Two Adult Rule" at all times so that no adult is left alone with children, youth or vulnerable adults on a routine basis.
4. Youth, adult volunteers and paid staff members with children, youth and vulnerable adults shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep volunteers and paid staff members informed of church policies and state laws regarding child abuse.
5. Youth, adult volunteers and paid staff members shall immediately report to the program leader any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

Please answer the following questions by checking YES or NO:

1. As a volunteer or paid staff member in this congregation, do you agree to observe and abide by all church policies regarding working in ministries with children, youth and vulnerable adults? ☐ YES ☐ NO
2. As a volunteer or paid staff member in this congregation, do you agree to observe the "Two Adult Rule" at all times? ☐ YES ☐ NO
3. As a volunteer or paid staff member in this congregation, do you agree to abide by the "Six Month Rule" before beginning a volunteer or paid assignment? ☐ YES ☐ NO
4. As a volunteer or paid staff member in this congregation, do you agree to participate in training and educational events provided by the church related to your volunteer or paid assignment? ☐ YES ☐ NO
5. As a volunteer or paid staff member in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to your supervisor(s)? ☐ YES ☐ NO
6. As a volunteer or paid staff member in this congregation, do you agree to inform a minister of this church if you have ever been convicted of child abuse? ☐ YES ☐ NO

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

Signature of Applicant

Date

Print Full Name

Please Check
All that apply:

☐ I am a
Volunteer

☐ I am
Childcare Staff

☐ I am
Glen Mar Staff

☐ I am
ELC Staff

Revised (10/2/2020)