



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

SAFE SANCTUARIES PARTICIPATION COVENANT STATEMENT

The Children’s and Youth Ministry of Lakewood United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth, and volunteers who participate in ministry and activity sponsored by us. The following policy statement reflects our commitment to preserving this program 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 adult who has been convicted of child abuse, (either sexual abuse, physical abuse or emotional abuse) should volunteer to work with children or youth in any LUMC sponsored activity.
2. Adult survivors of child abuse need the love and support of our church. Any adult survivor who desires to volunteer in some capacity to work with children or youth is encouraged to discuss his/her willingness with one of our pastors before accepting an assignment.
3. All adult volunteers involved with the children or youth of our organization must have been members of Lakewood United Methodist congregation for at least six months before beginning a volunteer assignment.
4. Adult volunteers with children and youth shall observe the “two-adult rule” at all times so that no adult is ever alone with children or youth with exception to this as outlined in the CPP.
5. Adult volunteers with children and youth shall attend training events. Teacher/volunteer meetings provided to keep volunteers informed of the policies and State laws regarding child abuse.
6. Adult volunteers shall immediately report to one of the LUMC Pastors any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.
7. All volunteers shall be at least five years older than the age group they are working with.

Please answer each of the following questions:

1. As a volunteer in this program, do you agree to observe and abide by all policies regarding working in ministries with children and youth? () YES () NO
2. As a volunteer in this program, do you agree to observe the “two-adult rule” at all times? () YES () NO
3. As a volunteer in this program, do you agree to abide by the “6-month rule” before beginning a volunteer assignment? () YES () NO
4. As a volunteer in this program, do you agree to participate in training events, teacher/volunteer meetings provided related to your volunteer assignment? () YES () NO
5. As a volunteer in this program, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to the Pastors? () YES () NO
6. As a volunteer in this program, do you agree to inform the Pastors if you have ever been convicted of child abuse or other criminal offenses? () YES () NO

I have read this SAFE SANCTUARIES participation covenant, and I agree to observe and abide by the policies set forth above:

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

PRINT FULL NAME: _____

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