

## Trinity United Methodist Church

### Participation Covenant for all Workers with Youth

The congregation of the Trinity United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all youth and volunteers who participate in ministries and activities sponsored by the church. The following summary of the TUMC policy statement reflects 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 adult who has been convicted of child abuse (sexual, physical ,or emotional) should volunteer to work with children or youth in any church-sponsored activity.
2. Adult survivors of child abuse need the love and support of our congregation. Any adult survivor who desires to volunteer in some capacity to work with youth is encouraged to discuss his/her willingness with our church's minister before accepting an assignment.
3. All adult staff or volunteers involved with the youth of our church must have been members of the congregation or an active participant for at least six months before beginning a volunteer assignment. A waiver of this policy by an adult wishing to be involved and who has initiated the screening process may be granted at the discretion of the Safe Sanctuary Review committee.
4. Adult staff or volunteers with youth shall observe the two-adult rule at all times or other acceptable procedures as defined in the TUMC Policy, so that no adult is ever alone or unobserved with one youth.
5. Adult staff or volunteers with youth shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep staff or volunteers informed of church policies and state laws regarding child abuse.
6. Adult staff or volunteers shall immediately report to the TUMC pastor or other Safe Sanctuary Review committee member any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

**Please answer each of the following questions (Circle your answer):**

1. As a staff member or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to observe and abide by all church policies regarding working in ministries with youth? Yes No
2. As a staff member or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to observe the two-adult rule at all times or other acceptable procedures as defined in the TUMC policy?  
Yes No

3. As a staff member or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to abide by the six month rule or obtain Safe Sanctuary Committee approval if less than six months before beginning a volunteer assignment? Yes No
4. As a staff member or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to the Pastor or other Safe Sanctuary Committee member? Yes No
5. As a staff member or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to the Pastor or other Safe Sanctuary Committee member? Yes No
6. As a staff member or volunteer of this congregation, do you agree to inform the minister of this congregation if you have ever been convicted of child abuse? Yes No

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

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Signature

Date

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Print Full Name