

Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church PARTICIPATION COVENANT STATEMENT

The congregation of Memorial United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children and youth, as well as all paid staff and volunteers who participate in children and youth 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 paid staff person or volunteer who has been convicted of child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, or emotional abuse) may work with children or youth.
2. All paid staff and volunteers involved with children or youth of our church must abide by the Safe Sanctuary policies and procedures.
3. All paid staff and volunteers involved with children or youth must attend regular training and educational events provided by the church related to their job or volunteer assignment, including those providing information about church policies and state laws regarding child abuse.
4. All paid staff and volunteers shall immediately report to their supervisor or the pastor any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

Please answer each of the following questions:

1. **Please answer the following question only if you are a survivor of child abuse.** As a paid staff person or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to discuss with the appointed pastor of this congregation your experience as a survivor of child abuse? ___Yes ___No
(Answering yes to this question does not automatically disqualify you from volunteering with children or youth.)
2. As a paid staff person or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to inform the appointed pastor of this congregation if you are convicted of child abuse? ___Yes ___No
3. As a paid staff person or volunteer, do you agree to observe and abide by the Safe Sanctuary Policies and Procedures? ___Yes ___No
4. As a paid staff person or volunteer, do you agree to participate in regular training and educational events provided by the church related to your job or volunteer assignment, including those providing information about church policies and state laws regarding child abuse? ___ Yes ___ No
5. As a paid staff person or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to your supervisor or the pastor?
___Yes ___No

*Form continued on the back of this page.

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

Signature

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____
(if under 18)

Print Name: _____

Date: _____