

# Covenant of Conduct for Core Creek Methodist Church Children and Youth Ministry Volunteers

1. I will respond to children with respect and consideration and treat all children equally regardless of gender, race, religion, sexual identity, or culture.
2. I will never leave a child unsupervised.
3. I will always observe the "Two Adult Rule" so that no adult is left alone with children, youth or vulnerable adults.
4. I will not abuse children or use corporal punishment of any kind. This includes physical abuse, verbal abuse, sexual abuse, mental abuse or neglect. No type of abuse will be tolerated and is cause for dismissal.
5. I will respect children's rights to not be touched in ways that make them feel uncomfortable. A child's right to say "No" is to be encouraged and respected. Other than diapering, children are not to be touched in areas of their bodies that would be covered by a bathing suit.
6. I will think on my feet to find creative solutions when situations not covered by the policy arise and will notify supervisors when this occurs.
7. I will use appropriate touch including pats on the back or shoulder, side hugs, handshakes, and high fives. I will refrain from full frontal hugging, touching personal areas or patting the buttocks.
8. I will use positive techniques of guidance, including redirection, positive reinforcement, and encouragement rather than competition, comparison and criticism.
9. I will not give gifts or special favors to individual children or show preferential treatment to a child or group of children to the exclusion of others.
10. I will not use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs in the presence of children or parents.
11. I will not smoke or use tobacco/nicotine in the presence of children or parents.
12. I will not use profanity, inappropriate jokes, or share intimate details of my personal life in the presence of children or parents.
13. I will not access and/or display inappropriate websites, Apps, or other online materials on my cell phone, tablets, laptops, etc. while participating in children and youth ministry activities.
14. I will observe the transportation guidelines as printed in the church's Safe Sanctuaries policy.
15. I will not have inappropriate relationships with program participants.
16. I will not demonstrate inappropriate public displays of affection in the presence of children or parents.
17. I will make sure that all interactions with minors and vulnerable adults can be observed and interrupted.

As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to observe and abide by all church policies and procedures regarding working in ministries with children and youth?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_

As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to act responsibly and promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to the proper officials and supervisor?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Approved 12/2/24

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

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Signature

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Print Name

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Date