

SAFE SANCTUARIES POLICY  
OF THE  
MACON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Administrative Board of the Macon United Methodist church hereby adopts the following policy for the protection of its children, youth and those persons working in these areas.

Our covenant and policy statements follow:

The congregation of the Macon United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth and volunteers 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 adult who has been convicted of child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, or emotional abuse) will be able to volunteer to work with the children or youth in any church-sponsored activity at Macon UMC.
2. Authorization and request for a background check will be completed by all employees and volunteers who regularly work with children and youth.
3. Adult volunteers with children and youth will be kept informed of church policies.
4. Adult volunteers will immediately report any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate to a supervisor, church office or pastor.
5. A copy of our Job Duties for Nursery & Toddler Room Attendants document will be made available for all volunteers.
6. Our church is a tobacco free, drug free, alcohol free environment.
7. Any church-sponsored activity involving children or youth meeting at the church must ensure that there are two (2) adults present. One adult can meet with two or more youth from Grades 6 and up at a public establishment (i.e., Bible study at Burger King).
8. Any church-sponsored overnight activity involving children of both genders, it is advised to have chaperones of both genders. However, in the case this is not possible; the parents of the female or male children must sign a waiver giving their approval.
9. A chaperone to a church-sponsored overnight event must be at least 19 years or older, **and** must be three years older than the oldest child. For example, a 19-year-old can chaperone a group of kids up to age 16, but not kids 17 or older.
10. All drivers to church-sponsored events must be 25 years old or older to drive a leased vehicle or personal vehicle, and must have a valid driver's license.
11. Parents/guardians should supervise children (0-18 years old) before and after church activities.
12. Any volunteer at conference, district or state level has to be Safe Sanctuary trained.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Children/Youth Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Volunteer