



Participation Covenant Statement

For Volunteers/Employees with Children and Youth

The congregation of University 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 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 abuse) will work with children or youth in any church-sponsored activity.
2. All adult volunteers involved with children or youth of our church must have been involved with our congregation for at least six months before beginning a volunteer assignment involving children or youth.
3. 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.
4. Adult volunteers with children and youth shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep volunteers informed of church policies and state laws regarding child abuse.
5. Adult volunteers should immediately report to a University UMC staff member any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

I have read this **Participation Covenant**, and I agree to observe and abide by the policies set forth above. This is a promise I make as a Christian and a member of this community of faith.

In addition, I hereby authorize University UMC to request a national criminal background check and to release information regarding any record of changes or convictions contained in its files, or any criminal file maintained on me, whether said file is local, state, or national and including but not limited to accusations and convictions for crimes committed against minors, to the fullest extent permitted by state and federal law. I do release University UMC from all liability that may result from any such disclosure made in response to this request.

Signature of Volunteer

Date

Print Name