

Print Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone(s) _____

SAFE SANCTUARY COVENANT STATEMENT

The congregation of Damascus 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 in any church-sponsored activity.

2. Survivors of child abuse need the love and support of our congregation. Any survivor of child abuse who desires to work as a paid staff person or volunteer in some capacity with children or youth is encouraged to discuss his/her experience with the pastor before accepting an assignment.

3. All paid staff and volunteers involved with children or youth of our church must abide by the Safe Sanctuary Policies and Procedures.

4. 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.

5. 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. As a paid staff person or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to inform the pastor of this congregation if you are convicted of child abuse?
___ Yes ___ No

2. 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 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.)

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

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

_____ (age, if under 18) _____
Signature

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____
(if under 18)

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Safe Sanctuary Questionnaire

If more space is needed, please use an additional sheet of paper.

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Address _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

1. Have you ever been accused, in a written and signed statement, of sexual misconduct with a child or a youth? ___Yes ___No
2. Have you ever been accused, in a written and signed statement, of sexual misconduct with an adult? ___Yes ___No
3. Have you ever been dismissed from any position, volunteer or salaried, because of accusations of sexual misconduct on your part? ___Yes ___No
4. Have you ever resigned from any position, volunteer or salaried, because of an accusation of sexual misconduct on your part, or to avoid being dismissed because of an accusation of sexual misconduct on your part? ___Yes ___No
5. If your response to any of the foregoing questions (1 through 4) is "yes", please provide on a separate sheet of paper all details regarding each accusation of sexual misconduct that has been made with respect to you, including a description of the alleged conduct, the name of the person who made the accusation, the date of the alleged misconduct, and the name of your employer at the time of the alleged misconduct.
6. Have accusations of sexual misconduct on your part ever resulted in civil or criminal court proceedings at any level (e.g., indictment, arrest, trial, etc.)? ___Yes ___No

If yes, please provide the complete details of those proceedings (including dates, circumstances, the jurisdiction where the proceedings occurred, the nature of the accusations, and the result of the proceedings) on a separate sheet of paper.
- 7a. Have accusations of sexual misconduct against you resulted in civil or criminal court proceedings on more than one occasion? ___Yes ___No
- 7b. Other than the above, is there any fact or circumstance involving you or your background that would call into question your being entrusted with the supervision, guidance and care of young people? ___Yes ___No

- 8 Please provide three adult references (names, addresses, phone numbers) of persons who are not related to you by blood, marriage or other family relationship and are not employed or supervised by you, who can, to the best of their ability, provide statements in support of your good character and clean record in regard to sexual misconduct with children, youth, and adults.

Name

Phone

1.

2.

3.

Questionnaire Response Form

(To be signed by all adults who work with children or youth at one or more church programs at Damascus United Methodist Church.)

I verify that the answers I have provided on this Questionnaire are true and accurate to the best of my ability. I understand that false answers, as well as the failure to sign this Response Form, will result in my being denied the position for which I am being considered, and I will not be allowed to work with children or youth.

Signature

Print Name: _____

Date: _____