

**SAFE SANCTUARIES POLICY
OF THE
MACON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

The Administrative Council of the Macon UMC, hereby adopts the following policy for the protection of children, youth, adults and those who work in these areas of ministry.

Our covenant and policy is as stated:

The congregation of the Macon UMC is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all persons, who participate in it's ministries and activities held or sponsored by Macon UMC. The following policy statement reflect our commitment to preserving this integrity of the 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 appropriate relationships with others.

1. No adult who has been convicted of abuse in any form (sexual, physical, emotional) will be able to work in any capacity in the ministry of Macon UMC.
2. Authorization and request for background checks will be completed by all persons who are involved in the ministry of Macon UMCs
3. All staff/leaders/volunteers, especially those working with children and youth shall be kept inform of church policies by SPRC.
4. Any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate shall be reported immediately to the lead person, church office or pastor.
5. A copy of the Ministry profile for Nursery & Toddler Room Attendants will be available to all persons.
6. Macon UMC is a drug free environment, which includes tobacco, drugs, alcohol.
7. Any Macon UMC sponsored activity involving children or youth at the church or off campus must ensure there are two (2) Safe Sanctuary Certified person. One adult can meet with two or more youth from grades 6 and up at a public establishment, such as a Bible Study at a restaurant.
8. Any Macon UMC sponsored overnight activity involving boys and girls, should have chaperones of both genders. However, should this not be possible, the parents must sign a waiver giving their permission.
9. Chaperones to a church-sponsored overnight event must be at least 21 years old and must be three years older than the oldest child. (i.e. A 19 year old could help chaperone a group up to age 16, but not if one or more is 17 years or older.
10. All drivers to church-sponsored events must be at least 25 years old, with a clean/valid Missouri divers license, regardless if the vehicle is personally own, rented or leased.
11. Parents / guardians are expected to supervise their children before, during and after all activities.
12. Any person involved in the ministry of the Macon UMC, as well as district or conference events is to be Safe Sanctuary Certified.