

HIBBEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH COVENANT STATEMENT

Hibben United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth, vulnerable adults, 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 adults who have been convicted of child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, or emotional abuse) should volunteer or apply to work with children or youth in any church-sponsored activity.
2. Adult survivors of child abuse need the love and support of our congregation. Any adult survivor who desires to volunteer in some capacity to work with children or youth are encouraged to discuss his/her willingness with one of our church's ministers before accepting assignment.
3. Adult volunteers will not be allowed to be an adult leader in any children/youth ministry unless they have been a member of the church for 6 months. However, the volunteer can act in an assistant role before 6 months of membership.
4. Adult volunteers or employees that work with children and youth shall observe the "Two-Adult Rule" These adults should be non-related. If the the Two-Adult Rule is not feasible a roaming approved adult with an unobstructive line of view must be present.
5. Volunteers and Employees that work directly with children and youth will receive training on the Sanctuary policy of Hibben United Methodist church.
6. All volunteers and employees that work with children shall immediately report to their supervisor any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

Please answer each of the following questions:

1. As a volunteer in this congregation or a paid employee of Hibben United Methodist Church, do you agree to observe and abide by all church policies regarding working in ministries with children and youth?
_____yes _____no

2. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to abide by the six-month rule before beginning a leadership volunteer assignment.
yes no

3. As a volunteer or employee of Hibben United Methodist Church that works with children or youth do you agree to observe the “Two-Adult Rule” at all times?
yes no

4. As a volunteer or employee of Hibben United Methodist Church that works with children or youth do you agree to participate in training of the Safe Sanctuaries Policy of the church as well as any associated trainings? yes no

5. As a volunteer or employee of Hibben United Methodist Church that works with children or youth do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to your supervisor? yes no

6. As a volunteer or employee of Hibben United Methodist that works with children or youth, do you agree to discuss with a minister of this congregation your experience, if any, as a survivor of child abuse?
yes no

7. As a volunteer or employee of Hibben United Methodist church that works with children or youth, do you agree to inform a minister of this congregations if you have ever been convicted of child abuse? yes no

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

 Signature of Volunteer Applicant or Employee

 Date

Print Full Name _____

***THE COVENANT STATEMENT MUST BE SIGNED ANNUALLY**