

# *Covenant*

**Having received a copy of the LUMC Safe Sanctuaries Summary for Partners, I covenant with the Lansing United Methodist Church to fully cooperate with the Safe Sanctuaries responsibilities.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

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## Safe Sanctuaries Purpose Statement

We of the Lansing United Methodist Church  
cherish our call to be a place where all feel the  
love of God surrounding them. We cherish the  
pledge that we make at baptism:

"With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that this child, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal."

*United Methodist Hymnal (1989),*  
Congregational Pledge 2, p. 44

An essential part of that call and pledge is to ensure that our ministries protect our children, youth, and vulnerable adults from abuse and exploitation. Our congregation has adopted a Safe Sanctuaries Policy to demonstrate our absolute and unwavering commitment to the physical and emotional safety and spiritual growth of all participants in our ministries. This brochure summarizes our responsibilities under our Safe Sanctuaries Policy as ministry partners in programs involving children, youth and vulnerable adults.



# **Lansing United Methodist Church**

# Safe Sanctuaries

## Summary for

### Ministry Partners



*Then Jesus said to them, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." Luke 9:48a*

## Overview of Safe Sanctuaries Responsibilities

- Two Adult Rule - Regardless of the size of the group, there shall always be two unrelated adults present, which may include an adult "roamer" who moves in and out of rooms/ministry activities. To qualify as one of these adults, the person must be 18 years old and at least 5 years older than the oldest minor present. This applies to videoconferencing and online gatherings.
- Attendance Record - written attendance must be kept for all ministry events/activities involving children and youth, to include adults present.
- Conduct all ministry activities in an area with an open view (for example, window in door, half-door configuration or open door).
- Ensure that no child, youth, or vulnerable adult is left unsupervised while signed in to a ministry program or event.
- Ensure the facility does not pose safety or health hazards to the participants of each ministry activity.
- Transportation - written permission forms, signed by parent/guardian must be collected before transporting children for ministry events. Drivers must be 21 years or older, and provide the ministry supervisor with a copy of current license and proof of insurance.
- Be observant for unusual behaviors and signs of abuse; report them immediately to the appropriate ministry supervisor. If you witness an incident of abuse or exploitation, or receive a report of such by a third party, report that incident or suspected abuse immediately to the ministry supervisor.
- Participate in initial and recurring Safe Sanctuary training after providing information necessary for a background check.
- Participate in annual review of LUMC's Safe Sanctuaries policies and procedures.
- Agree to covenant with LUMC to fully cooperate with the Safe Sanctuaries responsibilities.

### Ministry Supervisors at LUMC

**Pastor Alison Schmied**, 615-830-5527

**Debbie Geise**, Children's Ministry and Christian Education Coordinator, 607-379-9658, for matters involving children's ministries

**Debbie Geise**, Youth Ministry Coordinator, 607-379-9658, for matters involving youth ministries.

**Karen Veaner**, Adult Ministries Coordinator 607-592-1386 for matters involving adult ministries

**Diane Withiam**, Choir Director, 607-592-1288, for matters involving music programs

**Rev. Dr. Sherri Rood**, District Superintendent, 585-340-9525 for matters involving clergy or clergy's family members



**Lansing United Methodist Church**

32 Brickyard Road

Lansing, NY 14882

607-533-4070

Email: [office@lansingunited.org](mailto:office@lansingunited.org)

Website: [www.lansingunited.org](http://www.lansingunited.org)