

Immanuel Lutheran Church Volunteer Participation Covenant

The congregation of Immanuel Lutheran Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth, volunteers, and employees 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. Adults who have been convicted of child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, or emotional abuse) shall not be accepted 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 is encouraged to discuss his/her willingness with one of our church's Pastors before accepting an assignment.
3. All adult volunteers involved with children or youth of our church must have been active in the congregation for at least six months and complete a CORI check before beginning a volunteer assignment (exceptions to the six-month rule are possible only with a written reference from a recent former Pastor).
4. Adult volunteers with children and youth shall take care that no child is ever left unattended and that no adult or youth assistant is ever unmonitored with children or youth.
5. 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.
6. Adult volunteers shall immediately report to their supervisors or the Pastor any signs of abuse or behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

Please answer each of the following questions:

1. As a volunteer in this congregation, 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 be monitored by another non-related adult as you work with children and youth? Yes No
3. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to abide by the six-month rule and a CORI check before beginning a volunteer assignment? Yes No
4. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to participate in training and education events provided by the church related to your volunteer assignment? Yes No
5. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to your supervisor or the Pastor? Yes No
6. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to inform the Pastor of this congregation if you have ever been convicted of child abuse or other criminal offense? Yes No

All volunteers in this congregation are strongly encouraged to confidentially share with a pastor of this congregation any personal experience as a victim of child abuse.

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

Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____

Print full name _____