

Shippensburg First Church of God

Child Protection Policy

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As revised April 13, 2016

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

It is the conviction of the Shippensburg First Church of God that abuse is contrary to and a violation of God's Scriptures and Pennsylvania State Law and will not be tolerated. Therefore, we are responsible to make all efforts possible to prevent abuse from occurring within the church body and facilities, to protect our members, leaders, and volunteers, and ensure that any possible situations that may involve abuse be handled responsibly.

This policy is not meant to restrict the teacher, the classroom helper, or the occasional volunteer, nor is it intended to keep a worker in the church from showing appropriate affection to a child in their care. This policy is intended to protect a child from being abused and the leader, teacher, or helper from being wrongly accused of abuse. It also is intended to help all those who work with children to be aware of the symptoms of abuse and know what to do when they suspect it.

When any person, who serves in a volunteer or compensated capacity in our Children's and Youth Ministries, witnesses, learns, or suspects that a child has been or is being abused, they must report it. This is the law and failure to do so is a criminal act. These laws protect the person reporting in good faith from suit and/or liability.

Those who minister to others within the church are called to unique roles and responsibilities, yet the position is not one to be grasped like a piece of gold that might be stolen. Rather, it is a call to look to humanity like Jesus did. Those who minister are to see the needs of others, whether they be physical, emotional, or spiritual. Then, with the love of God poured into their hearts (Romans 5:5), pour themselves into the situation so that they might see the way to meet the need. Ministering means "emptying" oneself enough to hear the cries of the lost, wounded, and hurting. Then acting through caring, sharing, healing, protecting, guiding, and sacrificing. The wise shepherd and counselor is constantly dialoguing with God so that when needs are made known, the answers will come from Him who is the Source of all wisdom.

Those who lead in ministry are witnesses by their lives and their words to the high standard of following Christ.

Therefore, we in Shippensburg First Church of God, seek to follow Christ's example by living Godly lives, striving to follow his directions, while leading and encouraging others to also follow the directions of Christ.

DEFINING ABUSE

Abuse to One's Self:

***Cutting/Self Injury-**

Can be marked by excessive bruising, scarring, burning, or cut marks, often in very ordered forms, usually on arms, legs, or stomach. It is an intentional way of giving an outward and visual expression of inward pain. Cutters are often intentional in covering marks by wearing long sleeved shirts and pants even when inappropriate, are secretive about their behavior, and often show verbal outbursts or withdrawal. Often starts small with pricks or scratching and progresses in quantity, frequency, and methodology.

***Eating Disorders-**

1. Anorexia can be marked by not eating, distorted body image, obsession with weight, weakness, fainting spells, secretiveness, excessive exercise patterns, constant comparison to others, and, eventually, an extreme weight loss. Can involve use of drugs/medications.
2. Bulimia can be marked by throwing up often, discolored and worn down teeth, bingeing, relatively normal body weight, and secretive about eating habits. Can involve use of laxatives as well. Often includes regular trips to the bathroom, or seeking privacy following meals.
3. Excessive Overeating can be marked by constant eating or regular bingeing sessions, eating to the point of illness, eating used as a coping mechanism, excessive weight, need to eat excessively to feel normal.

***Emotional/ Mental Abuse to Self-**

Marked by saying mean, sarcastic, or derogatory remarks about one's self.

***Substance Abuse-**

All Substance abuses, including alcohol, inhalants, tobacco, and all forms of drugs, are usually marked by a change of behavior be it gradual or extreme. It may include any of the following: drop in grades, inability to keep commitments, glazed or bloodshot eyes, incoherency, depression, lack of involvement, withdrawing, angry outbursts, dark circling around the eyes, risk taking behaviors, change in friends, desire for or lack of money, change in eating habits, secrecy about behavior, respiratory infections and problems, physical bruising on arms, neck, or fingernails, smells of substances, smoke, or excessive cologne or fresheners on breath or clothing, etc.

***Suicide-**

Marked by talk of ending one's life, depression, giving away of possessions, having a plan to do it, extreme risk taking behaviors, withdrawal from activities, questioning about another's love or interest, questions about death and future, making restitutions for past actions, crisis situations, etc.

***Workaholism/Business-**

Marked by lack of close relationships, irritability, lack of sleep, inability to keep commitments, depression, need for perfection, inability to say no, a strong desire to please others and need for approval, potential for breakdowns, substance abuse, susceptible to illness, and may participate in other risk taking behaviors.

DEFINING ABUSE

Abuse to Others:

***Physical Abuse-**

Definitions:

1. Causing bodily injury through any recent act or failure to act.
2. Fabricating, feigning or intentionally exaggerating or inducing a medical symptom or disease which results in a potentially harmful medical evaluation or treatment through any recent act.
3. Causing sexual abuse or exploitation through any act or failure to act.
5. Creating a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury through any recent act or failure to act.
6. Creating a likelihood of sexual abuse or exploitation through any recent act or failure to act.
8. Engaging in any of the following recent acts:
 - a. Kicking, biting, throwing, burning, stabbing or cutting in a manner that endangers.
 - b. Unreasonably restraining or confining, based on consideration of the method, location or the duration of the restraint or confinement.
 - c. Forcefully shaking a child under one (1) year of age.
 - d. Forcefully slapping or otherwise striking a child under one (1) year of age.
 - e. Interfering with breathing.
 - f. Causing a child to be present at a location while a violation of 18 Pa. C.S. § 7508.2 (relating to operation of methamphetamine laboratory) is occurring, provided that the violation is being investigated by law enforcement.
 - g. Leaving a child unsupervised with an individual, other than the child's parent, who the actor knows or reasonably should have known: Is required to register as a Tier II or Tier III sexual offender under 42 Pa. C.S. Ch. 97 Subch. H (relating to registration of sexual offenders), where the victim of the sexual offense was under eighteen (18) years of age when the crime was committed; has been determined to be a sexually violent predator under 42 Pa. C.S. § 9799.24 (relating to assessments) or any of its predecessors; or has been determined to be a sexually violent delinquent child as defined in 42 Pa. C.S. § 9799.12 (relating to definitions).
9. Causing death through any act or failure to act.

Physical warning signs may include bruises, welts, burns, or scars on any part of the body, particularly in places that are unusual for bruising; multiple bruises in different stages of healing and/or in different areas of the body; difficulty with urination or bowel movements, marks shaped like particular objects such as a belt buckle, chord, cigarette or cigar; infected wounds or lack of treatment for obvious needs; trouble walking or sitting; sexually transmitted disease or a pregnancy; bloody or torn clothing; continual stomach aches or vomiting, etc.

Behavioral warning signs may include feeling really deserving of punishment, fear of adult contact, acting up often, reverting back to childlike or babyish behavior, sudden sexual self-awareness or consciousness, withdrawing, being afraid to go home, being excessively angry or easily irritated, inappropriate actions for their age group, trouble making friends, sudden changes in behavior, nightmares, memory blocks, unexplained crying spells, injury to one's self, inappropriate boundaries or ideas about boundaries with other children or adults, treating others abusively, participating in other risk taking behaviors, suicidal feelings, losing interest in school or activities, talking about being abused, dirty, or bad, etc.

***Emotional/ Mental Abuse-**

Definition: Causing or substantially contributing to serious mental injury through any act or failure to act or a series of such acts or failures to act.

Major Types include Rejecting (telling a child he/she is worthless and unwanted, the cause of the family problems), Ignoring (being unaware and/or unwilling to meet the emotional needs of a child), Terrorizing (Criticizing, ridiculing, threatening, and extreme punishment of a child), Isolating (Disallowing a child to engage in appropriate activities or stimuli), and Corrupting (Permitting or forcing a child to engage in inappropriate behavior or material.

Behavioral warning signs may include poor self esteem, destructive or extreme risk taking behavior, outbursts of anger, withdrawal, suicide attempts, inability or difficulty in forming and maintaining relationships, looking or acting inappropriately for their age, treating others abusively, having inappropriate boundaries or ideas about boundaries, negative self talk, etc.

***Neglect-**

Definition: Causing serious physical neglect by not providing for the needs of a child, youth, or vulnerable adult emotionally or physically. This may include abandonment, inadequate supervision, truancy, exposure to traumatic or inappropriate stimuli, inadequate health care, food, clothing, hygiene, or other basic necessities.

Warning signs may include ripped, torn, or inappropriate clothing; insufficient food or eating excessively when food is offered; illnesses or injuries that go untreated; bad hygiene; lack of adequate shelter; inability to contact a parent or guardian; often late, alone, and/or missing, etc.

***Limitations-**

The term abuse [as it relates to children] does not include physical contact with a child that is involved in normal participation in athletic or recreational activities. Also excluded from the meaning of the term child abuse is the use of reasonable force by a person responsible for the welfare of a child for purposes of supervision, control or safety, provided that the use of force:

1. Constitutes incidental, minor or reasonable physical contact in order to maintain order and control;
2. Is necessary to quell a disturbance or remove a child from the scene of a disturbance that threatens property damage or injury to persons;
3. Is necessary for self-defense or defense of another;
4. Is necessary to prevent the child from self-inflicted physical harm; or
5. Is necessary to gain possession of weapons, controlled substances or other dangerous objects that are on the person of the child or in the child's control.

SOME CHARACTERISTICS SEEN IN PERPETRATORS:

- *Abnormal or excessive need to be around children
- *Overly concerned or friendly with children
- *Unable to develop or maintain healthy adult relationships
- *Manipulation by scheming or conniving
- *Very often respected members of the community
- *80% know their victims
- *Nearly all sex offenders have been sexually abused during their childhood. (**However, most victims DO NOT become offenders.**)
- *Usually each sex offender has many victims. Child molestation is a repeated pattern of behavior.

POSITIONS/LAWS CONCERNING ABUSE

***The Shippensburg First Church of God policy, as well as the Eastern Regional Conference of the Churches of God, General Conference is that abuse is a violation of scripture (God's law) and will not be tolerated.**

***Abuse is also a violation of Pennsylvania State Law.**

Therefore, the Shippensburg First Church of God will adhere to the following, to be in line with both God's Law, and Pennsylvania State law.

(Underlining throughout this section has been added to highlight relevant information.)

PA Title 23, Section 6311, defines Mandated Reporters.

According to this section, mandated reporters shall make a report of suspected child abuse, if the person has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is a victim of child abuse. Ministers and all spiritual leaders of a regularly established church are mandated reporters. Also, an individual, paid or unpaid, who, on the basis of their role in a regularly scheduled program, activity or service, accepts responsibility for a child, is a mandated reporter. Therefore, our pastors, ministerial staff, and everyone else who works with youth or children, in our church, qualify as mandated reporters.

PA Title 23, Section, 6311.1. Does still provide a very small window for some privileged communications.

The general rule is that the privileged communications between a mandated reporter and a patient or client of the mandated reporter shall not:

- (1) Apply to a situation involving child abuse.
- (2) Relieve the mandated reporter of the duty to make a report of suspected child abuse.

However, for confidential communications the following protections shall apply:

- (1) Confidential communications made to a member of the clergy are protected under 42 Pa.C.S. § 5943 (relating to confidential communications to clergymen).
- (2) Confidential communications made to an attorney are protected so long as they are within the scope of 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 5916 (relating to confidential communications to attorney) and 5928 (relating to confidential communications to attorney), the attorney work product doctrine or the rules of professional conduct for attorneys.

PA Title 23, Section 6312, also encourages anyone else who suspects abuse to report it.

Any person may make an oral or written report of suspected child abuse, which may be submitted electronically, or cause a report of suspected child abuse to be made to the department, county agency or law enforcement; if that person has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is a victim of child abuse. This is called permissive reporting.

PA Title 23, Section 6313 details the procedure for reporting abuse in Pennsylvania.

(1) A mandated reporter shall immediately make an oral report of suspected child abuse to Childline via the Statewide toll-free telephone number- **1-800-932-0313**.

(2) A mandated reporter making an oral report under paragraph (1) of suspected child abuse shall also make a written report, which may be submitted electronically, within 48 hours to the department or county agency assigned to the case in a manner and format prescribed by the department. The written report of suspected child abuse, which may be submitted electronically, shall include the following information, if known:

- (1) The names and addresses of the child, the child's parents and any other person responsible for the child's welfare.
- (2) Where the suspected abuse occurred.
- (3) The age and sex of each subject of the report.
- (4) The nature and extent of the suspected child abuse, including any evidence of prior abuse to the child or any sibling of the child.
- (5) The name and relationship of each individual responsible for causing the suspected abuse and any evidence of prior abuse by each individual.
- (6) Family composition.
- (7) The source of the report.
- (8) The name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person making the report.
- (9) The actions taken by the person making the report.
- (10) Any other information required by Federal law or regulation.
- (11) Any other information that the department requires by regulation.

PA Title 23, Section 6319 covers the penalties for failure to report. Reports must be made or you can be held accountable by Pennsylvania State Law.

PA Title 23, Section 6344 requires that all employees, 14 years of age or older, who will be responsible for the welfare of children, or have direct contact with children, must submit the following 3 clearances to their employer:

- (1) A report of criminal history record information from the Pennsylvania State Police.
- (2) A child abuse history clearance through the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.
- (3) An FBI clearance that includes fingerprinting and checking of the national criminal database.

This section requires that the employer maintains a copy of the required information, and requires the individual to produce the original document prior to employment or acceptance to serve in any such capacity. An employer that intentionally fails to require an applicant to submit the required documentation before the applicant's hiring commits a misdemeanor of the third degree.

This section also requires that all of this information be current every 5 years, from the date of the original submission. If the information obtained in any submission reveals that the employee has either a founded report of child abuse in the 5 year period immediately preceding verification, or has committed any of the acts listed in 6344(c), they shall be disqualified from service. (See the following page for a detailed listing of 6344(c).)

This section requires that all clearances for employees be new at the time of hire. They are nontransferable from employer to employer.

PA Title 23, Section 6344.2 requires that all volunteers, 18 years of age or older, who will be responsible for the welfare of children, or have direct contact with children, must submit the following to their supervisor:

- (1) A report of criminal history record information from the Pennsylvania State Police.
- (2) A child abuse history clearance through the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.
- (3) EITHER an FBI clearance that includes fingerprinting and checking of the national criminal database, OR must affirm in writing that they have been a resident of Pennsylvania for the last 10 years and are not disqualified from service for any reason listed in 6344(c).

This section requires that the supervisor maintains a copy of the required information, and requires the individual to produce the original document prior to acceptance to serve in any such capacity. An employer that intentionally fails to require an applicant to submit the required documentation before the applicant's service commits a misdemeanor of the third degree.

This section also requires that all of this information be current every 5 years, from the date of the original submission. If the information obtained in any submission reveals that the employee has either a founded report of child abuse in the 5 year period immediately preceding verification, or has committed any of the acts listed in 6344(c), they shall be disqualified from service. (See below for a detailed listing of 6344(c).)

PA Title 23, Section 6344(c) details what will disqualify an employee or volunteer from service.

Grounds for denying employment or volunteering with youth or children include:

- (1) If the applicant is named as the perpetrator of a founded report on the child abuse history clearance, committed within the five year period immediately preceding verification.

- (2) If the applicant's criminal history indicates the applicant has been convicted of one or more of the following offenses or its equivalent under Federal law or the laws of another state:
- Chapter 25 (relating to criminal homicide).
 - Section 2702 (relating to aggravated assault).
 - Section 2709.1 (relating to stalking).
 - Section 2901 (relating to kidnapping).
 - Section 2902 (relating to unlawful restraint).
 - Section 3121 (relating to rape).
 - Section 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault).
 - Section 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse).
 - Section 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault).
 - Section 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault).
 - Section 3126 (relating to indecent assault).
 - Section 3127 (relating to indecent exposure).
 - Section 4302 (relating to incest).
 - Section 4303 (relating to concealing death of child).
 - Section 4304 (relating to endangering welfare of children).
 - Section 4305 (relating to dealing in infant children).
 - A felony offense under section 5902(b) (relating to prostitution and related offenses).
 - Section 5903(c) or (d) (relating to obscene and other sexual materials and performances).
 - Section 6301 (relating to corruption of minors).
 - Section 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children). The attempt, solicitation or conspiracy to commit any of the offenses set forth in this paragraph.
- (3) If applicant's criminal history record information indicates the applicant has been convicted of a felony offense under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, committed within the five-year period immediately preceding verification under this section.

SHIPPENSBURG FIRST CHURCH OF GOD POLICY

The Shippensburg First Church of God policy is that abuse is contrary to and is a violation of God's Scriptures and Pennsylvania State Law, and as such, will not be tolerated. Therefore, we enact these policies to reduce the risk of abuse happening within the church body and building; to protect our children, youth, vulnerable adults, members, leaders, and volunteers; and to ensure that any possible situations that may involve abuse will be handled responsibly.

All volunteers and staff who interact with those under the age of 18, or vulnerable adults:

1. Must Complete the Mandated Reporter Training.
2. Must Read and be given a copy of this manual.
3. Teachers, assistant teachers, and those with primary leadership responsibilities in Children's and Youth Ministries must be active members of the Shippensburg First Church of God unless otherwise approved by the Christian Education Committee.

4. Must attend a majority of scheduled leader training sessions, as pertaining to the ministries with which you will be involved.
5. Must attend the church regularly for six months prior to being assigned as a volunteer.
6. Must adhere to prescribed safe guards as outlined below:
 - a) There will be two leaders, at least one over the age of 18, present for any interaction with youth and children.
 - b) In the event that it is not possible to follow the two leader rule,
 - 1.) Church staff or council will be informed of the details of the event including beginning and ending time, adult's name, and approximate number of children and/or;
 - 2.) Periodic checks by a roamer (another approved leader) will occur.
 - c) One-on-one interaction should occur only with parental permission, and church staff on council should be informed.
 - d) All events must be held in open areas, or at least, where activities can be viewed from outside the room (i.e. windows on a door, or an open door).
 - e) All leaders should expect regular interaction with other staff members and volunteers.
 - f) All leaders should ask only other approved volunteers or staff members to be substitutes.
 - g) Children under the age of 9 should not be left unattended.
7. Must Report any suspected abuse to Child Line Hotline **1-800-932-0313**. Then immediately notify the Senior Pastor, and/or Youth Pastor or Director of Children's Ministries and make the electronic report in 48 hours.
8. Must satisfactorily (in accordance with PA Title 23, Section 6344c) complete, maintain, and return the following documentation to the Church's designated coordinator of this policy, the Director of Children's Ministries, or the Associate Pastor of Worship and Youth:
 - a) Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Background Clearance.
 - b) Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance.
 - c) The FBI National Clearance OR a signed affidavit stating you have been a resident of PA for the previous 10 years and are not disqualified from working with children or youth according to PA Code, Title 23, Section 6344c. (Exception: Employees **MUST** submit the FBI Clearance.)
 - d) All Clearances listed in a, b, and c must be current within 5 years of hire or assignment, and be renewed every 5 years from the date of the previous clearance.
10. Volunteers under the age of 18, who regularly help with children or youth ministry must attend training, and be directly supervised by an adult who is at least 18 years old. They do not need to complete the forms listed in 9 a, b, and c.
11. Those who drive for a church event, transporting children or youth, must be at least 21 years old.
12. A list of everyone who has completed all of the above requirements will be kept on file with our insurance company.
- 13. All volunteers and staff who interact with those under the age of 18 or vulnerable adults, must read, complete, and sign the Child Protection Checklist on the last page of this document. Once completed and signed, please remove and place in the box provided in the Gathering Place.**

OUR RESPONSE PLAN TO AN ABUSE ALLEGATION

If an allegation of abuse occurs within our church or at one of our church activities, meaning that someone staffing, volunteering, or otherwise attending is accused of abusing a child in our care, we will:

1. Take the allegation seriously, protecting the victim always. The Abuse will be reported following regular reporting procedures.

Then the Pastoral Staff or the Elders of the church will:

2. Notify the parents of the victim, assuming the accused is not the custodial parent.
3. Notify the accused, who will step down or be removed of all positions of service until the allegations are settled.
4. Notify our Church's insurance company representative.
5. Notify our Church's lawyer.
6. Notify the Eastern Regional Conference Executive Director or Director of Congregational Care.
7. Notify and hold emergency meeting of the Elders and pastors to determine communication with the church body, media, and community. All communications will be made under the direction of our Church's lawyer and the Eastern Regional Conference.

OUR RESPONSE PLAN WHEN ABUSE IS SUSPECTED OR WITNESSED

If we suspect (or witness) one of the children or youth under our care is being abused we will:

1. Report the abuse directly to PA Child Abuse Hotline. **ChildLine Number is: 1-800-932-0313**
2. Immediately notify Senior Pastor and/or Youth Pastor, or Director of Children's Ministry that a report has been made.
3. Make a written report within 48 hours.

Senior Pastor and/or Youth Pastor, or Director of Children's Ministry will:

1. Keep a simple log of the date, time, and summary of incident.
2. Maintain the electronic account to make written reports online via the Child Welfare Portal.
3. Ensure that any other follow up, that is determined necessary, is completed.

The Church's Response to Convicted Sex Offenders

Because the Church is the only institution to offer reconciliation between God and neighbor, thus making our world less hostile, and the Church represents the Body of Christ, who says, "Come unto me" to all people, the church must find a way to create space for grace for all people. At the same time the church is given the mandate to bring children to Jesus, noting that Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them. For the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Mark 10: 14 NLT) Below are some suggested actions that may be adapted to a church's Child Protection Policy so that sanctuary, protection and grace may be offered to all.

1. When a person within our church congregation becomes a convicted sex offender, or you find that a convicted sex offender is in our church, grace and care must be extended to the "convicted" individual as well as any family members associated with our church. Under the Pastor's direction the covenant group (Shippensburg First Church of God Deacons and/or Deaconesses) should be formed to support and nurture both the convicted individual and the family. When the individual is incarcerated and on probation, the covenant group should be in contact and support.
2. When a convicted sex offender, not previously connected with our congregation, wishes to connect with our church, the Pastor should make an appointment and visit with the individual as quickly as possible. This conversation must be welcoming but honest. Included in the conversation should be the need to "protect" the individual as well as the children. Information should be gathered into the nature of the "offense" and an understanding of the probation restrictions that still may exist.
3. If the person is still on probation, the Pastor should be in contact with the probation/parole officer to verify the parole restrictions. Information should be sought specifically regarding church attendance and guidance in how to best incorporate the individual into the congregational setting.
4. In every case, our Church and the returning Individual should enter into a Covenant, for the duration of their parole—or the duration of the person attending worship and church activities.

The Church will covenant to:

- Provide a Support Group, where one or more members will support the individual with attendance when they are in our church facility. This should be a quiet support, but should include someone being present with him/her, including in the restroom, at all times.
- Volunteer work, if allowed by parole restrictions, would be limited to adult activities. Opportunities that provide contact with children and youth would not qualify.
- Rooms where children and youth programs are occurring should not be entered, even with a covenant friend.

The Individual will covenant to:

- Uphold the mission of our church and their design to provide a safe sanctuary for all children, including rest rooms, children and youth activity room guidelines.
- Cooperate by giving needed information as requested and accept full benefit of the covenant group as provided.

If the covenant is not kept, the individual will not be permitted to be in attendance within our church facility. Spiritual guidance can still be extended to the individual by both the pastor and the covenant group in another location.

Rev. Dr. Dianne B. Salter; April 23, 2007

As revised April 13, 2016

CHILD PROTECTION CHECKLIST		Date: _____	
1. I have completed a Mandated Reporter Training Session?	Yes	No	
2. I have been given, read, and understood the manual regarding abuse?	Yes	No	
3. I am actively involved in worship and at least one small group ministry? My small group is:	Yes	No	
4. I commit to attend a majority of scheduled leader training sessions for the ministries I am involved in? (i.e.: VBS teacher's meeting, Youth Leadership training, etc.)	Yes	No	
5. I will adhere to the safety guidelines regarding accountability, boundaries, and physical locale of events as listed on pages 8 and 9 of the manual?	Yes	No	
6. I understand my responsibility and commit to reporting any suspected cases of abuse as delineated on pages 9 and 10 of the manual?	Yes	No	
7a. I affirm that I have lived in the state of PA for the previous 10 years?	Yes	No	
7.b. <i>If the answer to 7a. is no</i> , then I agree to cooperate in getting an FBI Clearance completed? (Mark N/A if the answer to 7 was yes)	Yes	No	
8. I affirm that I am not disqualified from service by anything listed in PA Title 23, section 6344c?	Yes	No	
9. If transporting children, I have a valid driver's license and my vehicle is properly insured according to PA state law?	Yes	No	
10. I understand that my clearances need renewed every 5 years, and will cooperate with the Youth Minister or the Director Children's Ministry to keep them current?	Yes	No	
11. I understand and give permission for my name to be submitted to our insurance company as an approved volunteer who has completed all of the stated requirements.	Yes	No	
12. I will adhere to the guidelines for responding to an allegation of abuse as listed on page 10 of the manual.	Yes	No	

To the best of my knowledge and ability, I covenant with the Shippensburg First Church of God to adhere to the Child Protection Policy, and take an active role in providing for the safety and well being of those under my care. Signed _____ Date _____

PLEASE REMOVE THIS SHEET ONCE SIGNED/DATED AND PLACE IN BROWN BOX TO THE RIGHT OF THE MAILBOXES IN THE GATHERING PLACE.