

## **SAFE SANCTUARIES POLICY**

Effective April 15, 2009, all people that will be leading or supervising youth and/or vulnerable adults in Grace United Methodist Church sponsored activities will need to adhere to the new Safe Sanctuaries policy. This includes, but is not limited to, Church School teachers, nursery volunteers, youth group leaders and chaperones, VBS (Vacation Bible School) volunteers, Movie Night chaperones, and acolyte leaders. The policy is intended to not only protect our youth, but it also protects the adult volunteers and the church itself. All individuals will need to follow the process below to be in compliance with the Safe Sanctuaries policy and continuing service with the youth of Grace United Methodist Church.

1. Background check – this is done through the Grace United Methodist Church office staff and all reports will be kept confidential and stored in a limited-access, locked file.
2. Attend Safe Sanctuaries training session at Grace United Methodist Church. Sessions will be scheduled as needed.
3. Read, understand, and comply with the Safe Sanctuaries policy.

Please complete an Authorization and Request for Criminal Records Check form (available from the office) and return to the church office as soon as possible so the background screening can be completed in a timely manner and avoid disruption to church programming.

Thank you for all you do for the children of Grace Church in the name of the Lord.

Please forward questions to the church office, (607) 936-6145.