

Unity of Traverse City
Board Policies & Procedures
Policy Category: Behavioral
Policy Subject: Known Sexual Offender Policy Number: 100

I. POLICY

The ministry loves and sees its children as perfect creations of God. As such, an ongoing priority of the ministry will be to maintain an environment that provides for the safety, security, and protection of our children.

II. PROCEDURE

In the event that a congregant of the ministry becomes aware that a person (or persons) who is a registered sexual offender is attending or plans to attend church services and/or other church-sponsored events or activities, and may interact with or be near children, it is the congregant's responsibility to notify the Senior Minister or President of the Board of Trustees of this person's presence and/or possible presence. Once notification has been made, the following steps will be taken:

- a. Confirmation, to be done by the Senior Minister, of the information and a determination, by checking with police and/or public database of whether or not this person may pose a threat. Charges and/or convictions that would indicate a threat include, but are not limited to: rape, assault, endangering the welfare of a child, kidnapping, and child molestation.
- b. After confirmation has been completed, the Plan of Action noted below will be in effect.
- c. The person (or persons) involved will be informed in writing, with a copy to the local police department, of the Plan of Action. This Plan of Action will also be communicated by the Senior Minister to the church staff, who will be required to follow its content.

III. PLAN OF ACTION

1. The person (or persons) who is found to be a registered sexual offender may be on church property only if church staff is notified of said person's intention to be present 24 hours in advance. This advance notice does not apply to the attendance at a Sunday and/or special worship service.
2. The person (or persons) may attend a designated Sunday and/or special worship service and may not attend any other activities or events where children are present.
3. An escort will be appointed who will meet the person (or persons) upon their arrival on church property and will remain in their presence until such time as the person (or persons) has left the church property. This includes accompanying and remaining with the person (or persons) in the restrooms, during the worship service and/or activity or event, and all other places on church property.

4. If deemed necessary, the escort will sign a document confirming their presence with the person (or persons) throughout their time on the church property or at a church activity or event. The document will be given to the Senior Minister to keep in the church files.
5. The person (or persons) shall not, under any circumstances, enter any rooms or areas that are designated for, or in use by, those under the age of 18 years of age.
6. Ministry staff, members of the Board of Trustees, parents, and others deemed necessary by the Senior Minister and/or Board of Trustees, will be notified that a known or convicted sexual offender is present in the ministry. All parties will also be provided a current copy of the ministry's 'Policy and Procedure – Known Sexual Offender'.

Board President

Date

Adopted: 08/13

Revised: 05/15