STREETSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SAFE SANCTUARIES PARTICIPATION COVENANT STATEMENT

The congregation of the Streetsboro United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all vulnerable persons and volunteers 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. No adult who has been convicted of abuse of any vulnerable person (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, or financial exploitation) should volunteer to work with vulnerable persons in any church-sponsored activity. The exception would be clergy who are members of Annual Conference and not individual church

2. All adult volunteers involved with vulnerable persons of our church must have been members of the congregation for at least six months before beginning a volunteer assignment.

3. Adult volunteers with vulnerable persons shall observe the "Two-Adult Rule" and "Rule of Three" at all times so that no adult is ever alone with vulnerable persons unless written permission is given by parent.

4. Adult volunteers with vulnerable persons shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep volunteers informed of church policies and state laws regarding abuse.

5. Adult volunteers shall immediately report to their supervisor any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

6. Our church has an open-door policy which means that a parent, volunteer, or church staff member can visit/observe at any time.

7. Our church encourages the use of two teachers/leaders for all vulnerable person activities.

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 vulnerable persons?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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4. Adult volunteers with vulnerable persons shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep volunteers informed of church policies and state laws regarding abuse.

5. Adult volunteers shall immediately report to their supervisor any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

6. Our church has an open-door policy which means that a parent, volunteer, or church staff member can visit/observe at any time.

7. Our church encourages the use of two teachers/leaders for all vulnerable person activities.

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 vulnerable persons?

☐ Yes ☐ No

2. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to observe the "Two-Adult Rule" and "Rule of Three" at all times? Or secure written permission for parent to work one on one with vulnerable person.

☐ Yes ☐ No

3. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to abide by the six-month rule 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?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to inform the lead pastor or chairperson of education of this congregation if you have ever been convicted of abuse?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

_____