

SEVEN SAFETY PRACTICES

at

First Presbyterian Church
Spartanburg, South Carolina

The Session, staff, and members of First Presbyterian Church are committed to maintaining a safe environment in which children, youth and adults are protected from physical, sexual and emotional harm while participating in activities with our congregation.

In order to **protect children and youth** in church programs, **protect volunteers and employees**, and **protect the church** from potential allegations of abuse and neglect, the following seven practices will be upheld:

Clean Records Practice

Application forms, personal and professional references, and criminal background checks conducted for volunteers and staff.

Six Month Practice

Teachers and leaders working with children or youth are those who have been church members or actively participating non-members for at least six months.

Annual Training Practice

Volunteers attend an annual training session to learn updates on current safety practices and complete volunteer applications.

Two Adult Practice

At least two unrelated adults present in each room or with each group of children or youth.

Open-Door Practice

Volunteers avoid situations where they could be out of sight of others by keeping doors open or using rooms with windows in the doors.

Hands-off Practice

Volunteers limit their physical contact with children and youth to pats on the back or shoulders or brief hugs.

Required Reporting Practice

Volunteers immediately report any sign of injury or possible abuse to staff supervisor.

I have read the following seven safety practices and agree to abide by them in my volunteer work at First Presbyterian Church, understanding that unusual exceptions will be reviewed by church pastors.

Name of Volunteer (Please print.)

Signature of Volunteer

Date