



NCCUMC On-line Data Collection System

District: 2 **Church:** 81 - DUR - Duke Memorial

Pastor: 35 - James Douglas Bell

Please provide the following for a safe sanctuaries contact person in the church: Name, Full Mailing Address, Phone Number, Email, and Leadership position/office held: :

North Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

Safe Sanctuaries

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For the year 2007

At Annual Conference, June 2005 a Safe Sanctuaries policy was adopted for the Annual Conference as follows:

Has the church adopted and implemented a safe sanctuaries policy and procedures?

Yes No

if "yes" please indicate the date adopted by the Church Council: *mm/dd/yyyy* 02/16/1999

If "yes" please attach your policy statement to this charge conference report for the district office.

If "no", what steps toward completion of this have been taken?

Where are you in the process?

What is your estimated time of fulfillment of this mandate? *mm/dd/yyyy*

Safe Sanctuaries Contact

Coordinator Name: **Ann Stallings Smith**

Mailing Address Line 1: **504 W. Chapel Hill Street**

Mailing Address Line 2:

Mailing Address City: **Durham**

Mailing Address State: **NC**

Mailing Address 5 digit Zip Code: **27701**

Mailing Address Zip Plus 4:

Phone: **(919) 683-3467**

Email: **annstallings@dukememorial.org**

DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Policies and Procedures Pertaining to Child Sexual Abuse

(Adopted February 16, 1999)

"Child sexual abuse" is defined as any sexual activity with a child. Unfortunately, it is a growing problem in our state and nation. Child sexual abuse includes any contact or interaction between a child and another person in which the child is being used for the sexual stimulation or gratification of the perpetrator and/or any additional person. This contact or interaction includes, but is not limited to, "rape", "child molestation", or "sexual assault" as those terms are defined by North Carolina law, as well as forcing a child to view or touch the genitalia of another person, exploitation of a child through pornography or prostitution, and similar acts. The abuser may be an adult, an adolescent, or another child significantly older than the victim.

In speaking of children, Jesus said "Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven..... If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea." (*Matthew 18: 4, 6; NRSV*). In keeping with its Christian mission to protect God's children from these "stumbling blocks", Duke Memorial UMC is in the process of developing and implementing a comprehensive set of policies and procedures aimed at the prevention and reduction of the risk of child sexual abuse. The Church staff and employees of the Duke Memorial Weekday School have recently received education and training regarding the identification of and response to incidents of child sexual abuse. The members of Duke Memorial will be informed of the child sexual abuse prevention policies and procedures as they are developed and implemented, and a copy of the current policies and procedures will be filed and available to congregation members and others in the Church Library.

Procedures for Reporting Child Sexual Abuse

Purpose.

Reporting child sexual abuse is crucial both to ensuring the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being of the children that are members of or otherwise interact with the congregation and facilities of Duke Memorial UMC, and to ending the "cycle of abuse" that often accompanies such behavior. Persons who sexually victimize children characteristically prey on multiple victims, and even where discovered and punished exhibit a high rate of recidivism.

Reporting Procedures.

1. An observation or report of inappropriate behavior indicating potential "child sexual abuse", as that term is previously defined:
 - a. made by a teacher or other employee, Duke Memorial staff member, volunteer, or parent associated with the Duke Memorial Weekday School shall be immediately reported to the Director of the Weekday School, who shall within 24 hours relate the observation or report to the Senior Pastor;
 - b. made by a caregiver or other employee, Duke Memorial staff member, volunteer, or parent associated with the Parent's Morning Out (PMO) Ministry shall be immediately reported to the Assistant in Ministry or other Duke Memorial staff member in charge of the PMO Program, who shall within 24 hours relate the observation or report to the Senior Pastor;
 - c. made by a Sunday School teacher or other congregation member, Duke Memorial staff member, or non-member volunteer associated with the Church shall be immediately reported to the Senior Pastor.
2. Upon notification of any potential instance of child sexual abuse, the Senior Pastor shall immediately investigate the suspected incident and report the Pastor's findings to the following parties:
 - a. the victim's parents, unless the parent is the alleged perpetrator;
 - b. the Durham Police Department;
 - c. the Durham County Department of Social Services;
 - d. the Chairs of the Administrative Board and Board of Trustees of

Duke Memorial UMC;

- e. the Director of the Methodist Home for Children/Child & Family Services, Inc. (Raleigh, N.C.); and
 - f. the Insurance People of NC, Inc. (Durham, N.C.).
3. The Durham Police Department and/or the Durham County Department of Social Services shall be responsible for investigating the reported or suspected incident of child sexual abuse, including interviewing the victim, interviewing the suspected perpetrator of the crime, and referring the incident, where warranted, to the Durham County District Attorney's Office.
4. With the assistance of the notified parties as listed in paragraph 2 above, the Senior Pastor shall direct the Church in providing emotional and spiritual support and healing to the victim and his or her family, and in taking appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of the incident or type of child sexual abuse involved.

