



## Child/Youth Protection Participation Covenant Statement (Rev. August 2016)

The congregation of Keller UMC is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth 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. I make this Covenant with the Church to abide by the Child/Youth Protection Policy (the "Policy"<sup>1</sup>).

### By signing this Covenant, I understand and agree that:

1. No person who has been convicted of child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse or emotional abuse) should volunteer to work with children or youth in any Function.
2. Survivors of child abuse need the love and support of our congregation.
3. Volunteers working directly with and supervising children or youth of our Church must be a member of the church for six consecutive months prior to eligibility, OR a regular attendee at services or ministries for at least six out of the eight calendar months prior to eligibility.
4. Volunteers with children and youth shall observe the "Golden Rule" as described in the training and detailed in the Policy (two unrelated, Eligible persons, an uncovered window or open door, and at least one supervising volunteer at least 5 years older than the oldest child/youth), and ensure that no Volunteer or Worker is ever alone with children or youth, and that youth are always supervised.
5. Volunteers with children and youth shall attend regular training provided by the church to keep volunteers informed of church policies and state laws regarding child abuse, including required periodic renewal of eligibility.
6. Volunteers shall immediately report to the Lead Pastor or designee any behavior that is abusive or inappropriate.

### Please answer each of the following questions:

1. **Do you have a copy (electronic or paper) of the current Child/Youth Protection Policy and have you read and understood it?**  Yes  No
2. **Have you completed a church-approved training on Child Protection?**  Yes  No
3. As an employee and/or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to observe and abide by all church policies regarding working in ministries with children and youth, including the Child/Youth Protection Policy?  Yes  No
4. As an employee and/or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to participate in training and education events provided by the church related to your volunteer/work assignment?  Yes  No
5. As an employee and/or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to the Senior Pastor or designee?  Yes  No
6. As an employee and/or volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to inform a pastor of this congregation if you have ever been convicted of child abuse?  Yes  No

**I certify that I have read and understand the current Child/Youth Protection Policy and this Participation Covenant, and my answers herein are true and correct.**

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Signature of Applicant

Date

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Print full name

<sup>1</sup>Capitalized terms are defined in the Policy.