

## Policy for Registered Sex Offenders

### Purpose:

The Church accepts as central to its mission the establishment and maintenance of a caring environment for every child of God, not least our own children, and a place of grace for all sinners, including those whose crimes are public. Knowing that children are at risk, not yet having the ability to protect themselves, we determine to provide protection for them by careful monitoring of any Registered Sex Offender participating in the life of this congregation. Knowing that God's grace has been extended to all, that grace invites repentance and that repentance requires acknowledgement of sin, sorrow for sin, and a turning away from sin, all with the support and prayers of God's people, we determine to provide a means that a Registered Sex Offender can live in that grace in the life of this congregation. Toward these ends we establish the following policy with regard to the presence of Registered Sex Offenders in the life of the congregation.

### Policy:

- 1) Obtain release from offender and contact probation Officer for specific information about the offense.
- 2) *"Participant"* must sign an agreement to adhere to the following requirements for participation in church life:
  - *"Participant"* must be physically accompanied *at all times* by an agreed upon, trustworthy male from the church while on church campus or attending church activities off campus where children may be present
  - *"Participant"* is not permitted to be involved in any children's or youth ministries
  - *"Participant"* is not permitted to be in the education wing, youth lounge, or other areas where children's and youth activities usually take place
  - *"Participant"* must be actively involved in treatment program with qualified professional until such time that the psychiatrist/psychologist is willing to write a letter to the church stating that the individual no longer benefits from treatment
  - *Should the "Participant"* not comply with the participation requirements, the offender will be asked to discontinue participation in church life on the church campus.
- 3) Ongoing and full disclosure to staff and Session of identity of *"Participant"*, until such time as is no longer deemed necessary.
- 4) Contact insurance carrier to provide appropriate information for policy coverage.
- 5) Reviews of compliance may be conducted periodically at the request of the *"Participant"*.