

SAFE SANCTUARIES Awareness Training

February 18, 2012

Zion Mennonite Church

10:00 AM-Noon with a light lunch

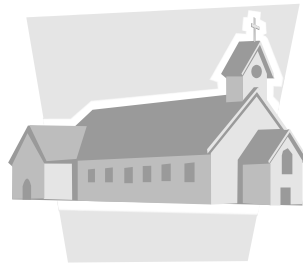
FOR: Everyone! All who work with children and youth: youth pastors, sponsors, mentors, Sunday school and Wednesday night teachers and superintendents, education committees, VBS planners, nursery workers. Congregational leadership (pastors, deacons, church council) are also strongly encouraged to attend.

WHY: It is a sad but true reality that our churches must put in place policies for preventing child and youth sexual abuse. This training is a *first step* in becoming alert to what needs to happen to make congregations safe places for all who attend. *Our Christian mandate comes from Matthew 18:1-5, where Jesus welcomes the little children.*

TOPIC: Safe Sanctuaries Training will address a variety of issues related to preventing sexual abuse of children and youth in the congregation. Various situations will be discussed: *What strategies and policies to implement? Why is the church especially vulnerable? What is the “two adult rule?” What are the issues regarding appropriate touch? How can we raise the bar for accountability, supervision and training but not offend workers and volunteers?*

PRESENTER: Marlene Bogard, Minister of Christian Formation and Resource Library Director for the Western District Conference, Mennonite Church USA. Ms. Bogard has trained dozens of churches to embrace Safe Sanctuaries. She is a certified Prevention of Clergy Misconduct trainer with Faith Trust.

Donations will be accepted to help cover workshop expenses.



Please RSVP to Jodi Hansen,

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