

I have read and understand this pamphlet and agree to serve as specified herein.

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Printed Name

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Signature

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Date

Beaverdam Mennonite Church seeks to be a gathering place where all church activities and facilities are safe for everyone, especially children. In Christ, we seek to be people who offer healing, hope, and refuge to all.

Our Mission Statement:

Honestly admitting our need of forgiveness,  
Thankfully proclaiming that God rescues us,  
Faithfully being the eyes, ears, mouth, hands,  
and feet of Jesus,  
Joyfully living by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**BEAVERDAM MENNONITE  
CHURCH**

# Safe Sanctuary Policy for Volunteers

**BEAVERDAM MENNONITE  
CHURCH**

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Adopted: May 16, 2013

# Safe Sanctuary Policy (SSP)

*Jesus cares about and loves the little children!*  
Beaverdam Mennonite Church (BMC) has adopted a Safe Sanctuary Policy that aims to create a safe environment for all who come seeking to experience Christ's love.

**As a volunteer, BMC requires you to assist in providing safe and adequate supervision to children by:**

- Reading the SSP and signing the form on this brochure.
- Supervising each child participating in BMC's ministry programs at all times until the child is returned to the care of the parent or adult responsible for the child.
- Keeping adult to child ratios to 1:4 for infants and toddlers; 1:10 for 2 year olds through kindergarteners; and 1:20 for elementary aged children. Supervision will increase in proportion to the risk of the activity.
- Following a "two-adult rule," when supervising activities involving youth. A child will not be isolated with an adult.
- Notifying parents/guardians ahead of time and getting consent for their child to be transported away from church facilities.
- Disciplining children as explained in the SSP.

- Reporting any suspicions or evidence of abuse to the BMC person who is supervising the activities, or the Pastor.

## Guidelines for adult and youth Volunteers

- Following a "two-adult rule," with a combination of male-female adults, or two females.
- Limit physical contact with children. Do not initiate hugging. Do not encourage children to hug adults, especially of the opposite gender.
- Appropriate touching includes shoulder patting, hair ruffling, and hand shaking. Avoid touching any part normally covered by a one-piece swimsuit.
- Respect children's and your own privacy.
- Be ready to explain that different behaviors are appropriate for different ages of children, e.g., running is appropriate for preschoolers but not older children.
- Point out that rules are in place for safety and harmony.
- Get down on the child's level to talk.
- Reassure children they will have many opportunities to have fun!

This pamphlet is not a substitute for reading the BMC Safe Sanctuary Policy.

Questions about the policy should be directed to the BMC person supervising the activity, or to the Pastor.

Please detach this portion, sign on the reverse, and return the form to:

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