



Plymouth Church UCC



Safe Church Policy

The Children's and Youth department (C&Y) is charged with making Plymouth a safe place for all youth, children, and C&Y volunteers. Safe Church compliance means we seek to make sure there are satisfactory safeguards in place for any program involving our young people. This is a list of the rules set in place to make sure Plymouth is a safe place for all our children and young people.

- Our nursery has two professional childcare providers who have been fully background checked and trained in "Safe Church" practices.
- Only approved parents or guardians may sign children in and out in the nursery.
- Our Sunday School teachers and Youth Group volunteers are each asked to fill out a disclosure form, give a reference, and, as a precaution, their names are checked against the national database of sex offenders and must pass a background check.
- Our Sunday School classroom doors have windows, and whenever possible, we have at least two unrelated adults present in classes, especially in classes with young children.
- For youth group events, we always make sure to have two unrelated adults present from the time the first teen arrives to the moment the last teen is picked up.
- For times when the two adult rule cannot be supported, at least three individuals (one must be an adult) will be present during church-related activities. An adult will never be left alone with a child or youth.
- Adult volunteers must have attended Plymouth Church regularly for at least 6 months before working with children or youth in a leadership role.
- All persons working with minors must be at least five years older than the age group they are leading/supervising.
- We have a procedure in place for Incidents of Suspected Abuse.
- For outings we require parents or guardians to fill out permission slips indicating that their child has permission to join all events scheduled for that year.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about the policies at Plymouth Church.

Rev. Matthew Bauhof & Leslie Szalay & The Children and Youth Department of Plymouth Church
Associate Minister Christian Education Director