



Northern Illinois Conference

OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SAFE SANCTUARIES®



Safe Sanctuaries® is a commitment that allows our sanctuaries, classrooms, mission encounters, camps and retreats, and all spaces where we gather to worship and serve God to be places of trust.

Churches in the Northern Illinois Conference are expected to be “Safe Sanctuary” congregations, where **all clergy, church staff and volunteers** who have a role in ministries with children, youth, and vulnerable adults should receive training.

We encourage every church to review its policies and safe sanctuary protocols every year, and as a conference, we require that every clergy, staff, and volunteer renew their Safe Sanctuary certificate every three years.

TRAININGS

- Training may be performed through the online, recommended resource “**Safe Gatherings.**” This resource includes a background check as part of the training – www.safegatherings.com - \$49 per user.
- **Conference-wide training** events are scheduled from time to time throughout the year by the annual conference - \$20 per user.
- Training may be performed **in-person** in a local church with a qualified trainer using the denominational Safe Sanctuaries curriculum, and followed up with a background check process managed by the local church.

Safe Sanctuary Training is a reflection of our shared values and commitment to do no harm and ensure that every person feels safe within the life of the church.

Questions & more information:

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www.umcnic.org/safesanctuaries