

First Presbyterian Church – Plymouth Background Investigation Consent Form

I, _____ (applicant complete name), hereby authorize First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth and/or its agents to make an independent investigation of my background, references, character, past employment, education, criminal, or police records, including those maintained by both public and private organizations and all public records for the purpose of confirming the information contained on my Application and/or employment now, and if applicable, during the tenure of my volunteering or employment with the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth.

I release the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth and/or its agents and employees and any person or entity, which provides information pursuant to this authorization, from any and all liabilities, claims, or lawsuits arising out of or related to the investigative process and/or the information obtained from any and all of the above referenced sources.

The following is my true and complete legal name, and all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Full Name (printed)

Maiden Name or Other Names Used

Present Street Address

City/State/Zip

How Long?

Former Street Address

City/State/Zip

How Long?

Date of Birth

Gender

Social Security Number

Driver's License Number

State of License

Signature

Date

Fill Out Reverse Side As Well!

MINISTRY WITH MINORS POLICY
First Presbyterian Church, Plymouth, Michigan

First Presbyterian Church, Plymouth, is a Christian community which takes seriously its responsibility to provide a safe and nurturing environment for children, youth, and adults who participate in our ministries. All staff members and volunteers who are in leadership roles in these ministries are living out the vows taken in baptism to nurture our children and youth in the Christian faith. Every person plays a key role in fostering spiritual development of individuals and families in our church community.

The disturbing and traumatic rise of abuse of children has claimed the attention of our nation and our society. The following statements reflect the commitment of First Presbyterian Church to provide a safe environment for all children, youth, and adults who participate in church-sponsored ministries.

THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ADOPTED BY SESSION ARE TO BE OBSERVED BY ALL VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES. Every member desiring to participate in these ministries must read this conduct policy of this church and agree to it by signing this form.

- A. At least two leaders (at least one must be 18 or older) must be present in every classroom or ministry setting. Too few leaders will result in cancellation of the class or activity.
- B. A staff member or volunteer must meet the following criteria if meeting a child or youth outside of the church building:
 - must meet at a public place
 - must tell another staff member about the meeting before it takes place
 - should have prior parental/guardian written permission; (blanket permission may be secured for program year).
- C. Report suspicious behavior, allegations, or symptoms of child abuse immediately to the ministerial staff person or the Christian Education Committee Chairperson.
- D. Leaders should be one of the following:
 - 1. a member of the church
 - 2. an adult family member of child(ren) or youth involved in program(s)
 - 3. an adult family member of church staff
 - 4. a person known to & recommended by a church staff member (a written recommendation including how the staff member came to know this person must be submitted to the church business administrator).
- E. All leaders, 18 years of age and older, MUST have a nation-wide criminal background check completed yearly before they may work with children or youth.
- F. Leaders will abide by any and all safety policies approved by Session and attend training events in which these policies are explained.
- G. The church business administrator will keep all applications, forms, and results in a secure location and provide staff with updated lists of those approved for Ministry with Minors.
- H. A Minor is anyone under the age of 18 years.

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I have received, read, understand and agree to abide by the "Ministry with Minors" policy.
I have never been convicted or plead guilty or no contest to a crime involving children or youth.
I consent to having a nation-wide criminal history records check performed.

Applicant's Signature of Agreement _____ Date _____

Please **print your full name:** _____

This policy was approved by Session on September 21, 2009 and is effective immediately.