

This Limited Access Covenant is executed between:

Sanbornton Congregational Church, United Church of Christ (UCC) referred to below as “we”, “the congregation” and “Pastor”;

And

(Name), referred to below as “you” and “your”

Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC is an “open and affirming congregation” and as such affirms the dignity and worth of all persons as expressed in our Welcome Statement. We are committed to being a religious community open to those who are in need of worshiping with us, especially in times of distress and serious personal troubles. However, based on your background, we have concerns about your contact with children and youth in our congregation. The following guidelines are designed to reduce the risk to both you and them of an incident or accusation. We welcome you to our congregation and our membership but your participation will be limited to ensure the safety of our children and youth and to assure that you will not be subject to future accusations.

Within these guidelines, the congregation welcomes your participation in worship services, coffee hour, meetings, adult education, and all adult social events. You are to avoid all contact with children and youth on church property or congregation-sponsored events.

This includes the following:

- Do not talk with children or youth under the age of 18.
- Do not volunteer or agree to lead, chaperone or participate in events for children and youth including such things as Sunday school, stories or talks for worship, youth group events, activities during intergenerational events, driving or otherwise transporting children and/or youth.
- You will remain in the presence of a assigned Escort who knows your situation at all times. You must meet that person before coming onto church property (or before arriving at any church-sponsored event), remain with him/her at all times, and depart with him/her.
- If a child or youth in the congregation approaches you, either at church or in a community place, politely and immediately excuse yourself from the situation.
- Avoid being in the Church or any church-owned building or church-rented space at any time without a assigned Escort present with you at all times.
- Do not ask for, seek access to, nor remove from the Church any materials, files, directories, etc. listing members and friends of the Church.
- We ask that you arrange your time in coffee hour with your assigned Escort.

As a part of this agreement it is understood that you will have three (3) members of this congregation, approved by the clergy, who know thoroughly your history and are willing to serve as your Escorts. You will be welcome on church property and at church-sponsored events but must be accompanied at all times by one of the Escorts named below:

(Named Escort 1)

(Named Escort 2)

(Named Escort 3)

To engage your integration into the congregation and to assist you in maximizing your experience with the Church it is agreed that you will meet on a bi-monthly basis with the Escorts and the Pastor together or separately to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern. These meetings will also serve as an ongoing review of the implementation of this covenant.

Implementation of this covenant, is based upon a review by the Pastor, of the most current supporting documents as follows:

- A statement from the court as to the nature of the conviction.
- A risk assessment from a qualified therapist.
- A report from a certified treatment provider indicating that you are not at too high a risk for recidivism.
- Any change in the above must be reported immediately to a member of the Pastor.

REASONS FOR EXCLUDING A PERSON FROM ALL CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Refusal to allow the Church Council to contact the treatment provider and parole officer.
- Refusal to go for a risk assessment with a qualified therapist.
- Report by a treatment provider that the individual is at too high a risk for recidivism.
- Refusal to sign a Limited Access Covenant.
- Refusal to comply with the requirements of the Limited Access Covenant.

This covenant will remain in effect until/unless:

- You fail to honor the terms of the agreement, thus nullifying it.
- It is superseded by any policies and procedures put in place by the Church's Safe Church Committee. The Safe Church Committee in consultation with the Pastor is the body responsible for providing you with guidelines, support and counsel for your participation in the life of the congregation.
- You, the Church Council, and the Safe Church Committee mutually agree to change the terms of this agreement.

ATTEST: I have reviewed the terms of the above Limited Access Covenant and agree to abide by its provisions. Failure to honor its terms will result in my being denied access to church property and all church events.

Signature

Date

Name

Address

PASTOR OF THE CHURCH:

Signature

Date

Name

Pastor

Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC
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