Training for Sexual Ethics
- Required for All Clergy and Lay Professionals
An introductory workshop on the unique needs of clergy and religious professionals engaged in United Methodist ministry exploring concepts of how to maintain healthy boundaries along with issues of access, power and control, vulnerability, and transference. An orientation to our conference policy on sexual ethics and the process utilized for seeking reconciliation and resolution upon the occasion of boundary violations is also explored.

Tuesday, October 14, 2014 or Saturday, October 25, 2014
9:30 am - 3:30 pm
VA UM Conference Center, Glen Allen
$10 includes lunch
0.5 CEU will be given.

Training for Clergy Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Required for All Clergy and Lay Professionals
Training to equip clergy and lay professionals with skills to understand our Virginia Conference policy regarding the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect. A pre-workshop, on-line course is also required. You will receive information by email prior to the date of your workshop.

Tuesday, January 13, 2015
10 am - 1:00 pm
Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center, Blackstone VA

or

Saturday, March 21, 2015
10 am - 1:00 pm
VA UM Conference Center, Glen Allen
$10 includes lunch
0.5 CEU will be given.

Registration details for all training dates:
- Registration is required 48-hours prior to the event in order to ensure sufficient materials are available for all participants.
- Event details and online registration is available at www.vaumc.org under “Event Calendar”
- Please keep a copy of this registration form or your online confirmation for your records.
- Requests for registration cancelation and refund & request for transfer of registration between training dates must be received with at least 48-hours notice.

Thank you for your participation.
Keeping our churches and communities safe is our responsibility.

The Virginia Conference lifts up two required training events for all clergy and lay professionals that will help with this task. The Child Abuse and Neglect training will also include resources for Safe Sanctuaries, which relates to the requirement of all Virginia Conference churches to have a current policy with procedures to reduce the risk of child abuse in the church. For more information about Safe Sanctuaries, contact the Conference Office of Ministries with Young People (800-768-6040, ext. 139).

Training Locations

VA UM Conference Center
10330 Staples Mill Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060
(physical address only—not mailing)

Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center
707 4th Street
Blackstone, VA 23824

The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church states the following:

“All clergy of The United Methodist Church are charged to maintain all confidences inviolate, including confessional confidences, except in the cases of suspected child abuse or neglect or in cases where mandatory reporting is required by civil law.” (¶341.5)

The 2005 Virginia Annual Conference affirmed:

“Currently, clergy in the Commonwealth of Virginia are not mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect. However, when United Methodist clergy of the Virginia Conference become aware of suspected child abuse or neglect, the conference expects that the clergy or religious professional will insure that a report to Child Protective Services will be made.

Clergy and religious professionals are expected to participate in training provided regarding the implementation of this policy through the oversight of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. Further, clergy will ensure training of volunteers, church staff and adjunct ministry staff relating to children and youth programs in his or her place of ministry. Clergy may need also to maintain an active role in advocacy for the child and their family who are the concern for the reporting.”

(2005 Journal, p. 54)