



Dear Grove Family;

On Sunday, May 19th at 4:30 pm we will be doing a “Churchwide Retraining” for our volunteers. In 2004 Grove Avenue initiated it’s first churchwide Safe and Secure training. It is our desire to provide our preschool, children, and students an environment that is safe and nurturing. This only happens when our church has been adequately trained and strong procedural guidelines are in place for those who work with our next generation. Over the past 15 years many things have changed here at Grove and in the world. In evaluating our current security protocol, we knew it was essential for the protection of our children we again restructure this program to better fit for our world in 2019.

The security of our children does not just rest on the volunteers who work directly with children but on everyone who is an active part of our congregation. From the parking lot greeters to the kitchen staff each of us play an important role in providing security for our church. For this reason, we are asking our church family as a whole to be part of this essential training.

An electronic copy of all the necessary forms to be completed on the 19th are attached in this email. Our new security policies and procedures are also attached. It would be helpful for you to read these policies prior to the 19th because each person is required to sign a policies acknowledgement form indicating they have read and agree to adhere to the guidelines within our policies. We will also have the attached applications and forms available in the foyer beginning April 28th.

This is a revamp and restructure of our current safe and secure policy. A large part of this training is an hour video on “Sexual Abuse Awareness Training.” This training focuses on how to provide a secure environment for our church family. Because of the sensitive nature of this video the training video is only required for High School students and older. We are asking that all middle school students who volunteer read over our policies with their parents and fill in an application.

#### CHECKLIST FOR COMPLETING NEW SAFE AND SECURE PROGRAM

1. Policies and Procedures Statement of Acknowledgement Agreement – Signed
2. Safety Application Form Submitted – background check release.
3. Sexual Abuse Awareness Training viewed.

If you are unable to attend this training please let us know. The training will be available online after May 19th, and viewers must pass the online test after watching the videos to provide proof of online training. Participants on the 19th will not be required to take the online test. All Grove volunteers will need to have completed this training prior to June 23rd.

After completing the sanctuary training VBS volunteers will transition to the gym by 6:15. There will be a refreshment time from 6:15-6:30 while volunteers check-in, receive their volunteer shirts and curriculum. This training will be completed by 7:30.

Kelly Teachey

*Following Jesus... to transform generations and nations.*

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