Bethel College Mennonite Church

Limited Access Agreement

Bethel College Mennonite Church affirms the dignity and worth of all persons. We are committed to being a religious community open to those who are in need of worshipping with us, especially in times of serious personal troubles. However, based on the multiple credible allegations of sexual abuse that we have received, we have concerns about your contact with children, youth and vulnerable people 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 as part of this congregation, but your participation will be limited to ensure the safety of our children, youth, and vulnerable people and to help safeguard you from future accusations.

Guidelines:

Within these guidelines, the congregation welcomes your participation in adult worship services, coffee fellowship in the Gathering Place, adult education, and all adult social events. You are to avoid all contact with children and youth on church grounds or church-sponsored events. This includes the following:

Do not talk with children or youth.

Do not volunteer or agree to lead, chaperone or participate in events for children and youth including such things are religious education classes, stories or talks for worship, youth group events, driving or otherwise transporting children, youth, and/or vulnerable adults.

On church grounds, remain in the presence of an adult who knows your situation at all times. This adult will be designated by church leadership.

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.

Meet regularly with a support and accountability group focused on participation in the life of the congregation. Group members will be designated by church leadership.

Agreements

If applicable, I give the pastor permission to be in contact with my therapist on a regular basis as needed to continue my participation in this congregation.

I agree to not use the church, including my Sunday School class, as a platform to minimize allegations or undermine congregational process related to this issue.

I have reviewed this covenant and agree to abide by its provisions. I understand and agree that if I violate this agreement, I will be denied access to all future church functions and church property.

I understand that this contract will be reviewed every six months and will remain in effect for an indefinite period.

_____	_____	_____
Signature	Print	Date
_____	_____	_____
Pastor	Print	Date
_____	_____	_____
Congregational Moderator	Print	Date
_____	_____	_____
Incoming Congregational Moderator	Print	Date