

Any volunteers who desires to work on a regular basis in Children's Ministries at Thornapple Covenant Church must complete a written application form and give permission to do a criminal background check. This form is available through the Children's Ministries office or on our website (www.thornapple.org/children-family-ministry-volunteer). All information is kept confidential.

### What is Sexual Abuse?

Child sexual abuse is any form of sexual contact of exploitation in which a minor is used for the sexual stimulation of the perpetrator. Such behavior may be violent or non-violent, touching or non-touching. It is always criminal.

Volunteer training will include behavioral, physical, and verbal signs to watch for that may indicate possible abuse. Training will also include what to do if abuse is suspected.

## Response Team

Rob Peterson (Sr. Pastor)
Greg Longworth (Attorney)
Lynne McLaughlin (Minister to Children)
Steve Raisch (Student Minister)
Lisa Udell (Minister to Children)
Andrew Vanover (Associate Pastor)
LV Wynalda (Social Worker)

### Contact Information

Lynne McLaughlin (Minister to Children) Lisa Udell (Minister to Children)

Church Phone 957-0580

Imclaughlin@thornapple.org ludell@thornapple.org







# Child Protection Policy

Thornapple Covenant Church

#### Welcome

Welcome to Thornapple Covenant Children's Ministries. We count it a privilege to come alongside you in the nurturing and developing of your child's faith. We also believe that safety has to be a top priority for this to take place.

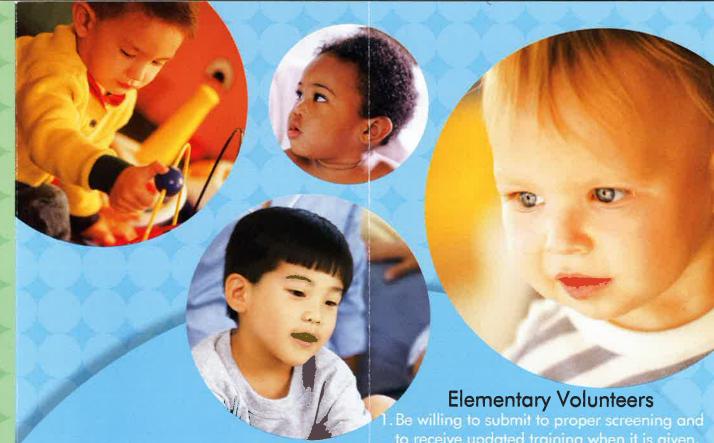
Please read through this brochure for important information regarding our Child Protection Policy. This will help ensure that Thornapple continues to be a safe place to grow in faith for our children

## Why is this important?

Child sexual abuse is widespread and often occurs when an adult misuses his or her authority over children. Unfortunately, churches and churchaffiliated institutions are not immune to such tragedies. While a church is a "community of trust", it must also be vigilant about keeping its most vulnerable in its care safe.

The following are a set of guidelines that seek to ensure a safe environment for our children. Through screening, supervision, and education of staff and volunteers in Children's Ministries, we hope to effectively reduce the risk of child sexual abuse ever taking place in our midst.





## **Nursery Workers**

- 1. Be willing to submit to proper screening and

- 4. It is preferred that only women diaper children or take them to the bathroom.
- Minister to Children to advise you.

- should have 2 adults in the classroom.
- 4. Only adults should take children to the bathroom. Please check to see that the bathroom is unoccupied before sending the child in. The adult should wait in the hall but
- 5. The Ministers to Children will randomly check all classrooms.
- 6. Off-site activities with children should have 2 should be cleared through the Ministers to Children prior to the event.