**Please Print Your Name (Last, First)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Participation Covenant for Workers with Children or Youth**

**The congregation of Wesley Freedom United Methodist Church (WFUMC) is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth and volunteers who participate in ministries and activities sponsored by the church. Our congregation is committed to preserving this church as a holy place of safety and protection for all who enter and as a place in which all people can experience the love of God through relationships with others.**

**I have agreed to work in this ministry of caregiving for children and/or youth in our congregation. As a participant in this ministry, I agree to:**

1. **Demonstrate behavior appropriate for a person who has responsibility for children. To that end, I will:**

* **Maintain a calm, loving, and gentle demeanor,**
* **Model appropriate behavior for children,**
* **Demonstrate respect for children, parents, my supervising teacher(s), and co-workers at all times, and**
* **Focus my attention and interaction on the children, not on other workers except as may be required to comply with the Abuse Prevention Policy.**

1. **Seek to understand the children in my care. This means that I will learn about the physical characteristics, developmental characteristics, and appropriate ways of responding and interacting with children of various temperaments and personality styles (resources available upon request).**
2. **Participate in training/orientation sessions offered by my church leaders as required and to familiarize myself with the Abuse Prevention Policy and Procedures.**
3. **Abide by the policies and procedures established by WFUMC and the Baltimore Washington Conference for this ministry, including the Abuse Prevention Policy and Procedures.**

**For adults: Have you attended WFUMC for at least 6 months? \_\_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_\_no**

***(Answering no to this question does not disqualify you from volunteering with children and youth.)***

**I have read and understand the above covenant.**

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**Signature Date**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Print Name**

**For minors: I have read and reviewed this covenant with my child.**

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**Parent of Guardian Signature Date**