



Florida-Bahamas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.
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A Safe Place for All God's Children: Child Abuse Prevention Resources

But Jesus called them and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them: for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs."

Luke 18:16

How Safe is Your Congregation?

The congregations that make up the Florida-Bahamas Synod in partnership with the Office of the Bishop are committed to developing strong and healthy ministries with our young people. This resource is provided to further our continued efforts to make all congregations safe and welcoming places.

Group's Church Volunteer Central

In addition to providing tools to recruit, train, and inspire volunteers, membership also enables a congregation access to a variety of reliable, thorough background checks. There are no annual minimum orders or additional activation fees. You will get up-to-date information about the constant changes in the security business. Plus you'll find forms, releases, waivers, letters, articles, online training sessions, and other resources. <http://www.churchvolunteercentral.com/>

Ministry Safe

A five-part safety program that creates overlapping layers of protection to ensure no situation is overlooked consists of awareness training, skillful screening process, policies & procedures, background checks, and monitoring & oversight. <http://ministrysafe.com/>

First Advantage/Volunteer Advantage

LexisNexis Volunteer Screening provides nonprofit organizations with innovative, cost effective, background check solutions that help you provide a safe environment for the people you serve and at the same time, protect and promote the integrity and reputation of your organization. <https://volunteer.fadv.com/pub/>

Resources Available from the Synod Resource Center

Safe Sanctuaries by Joy Melton*

The author outlines a process for developing policies and procedures to reduce the risk of child abuse in the church. The book also contains suggestions and sample forms.

Safe and Secure by Jeff Hanna (Alban Institute)*

The author offers guidelines for staff, volunteers and facilities including legal and ethical ramifications for congregations.

* Available from the Synod Resource Center.