



EPISCOPAL

CHURCH OF NH

September 22, 2016

Dear Safe Church Ministers, Parish Administrators, and Clergy,

We are writing to you to let you know about some changes to the Safe Church curriculum and requirements of the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire. The most recent version of our curriculum - a hybrid curriculum involving online modules and a three hour in-class session - has now been in effect for three years, and many clergy and parishioners are due for additional training to be recertified (required every three years). The combination of online modules and a regionally scheduled class session has been working well. Evaluations submitted after the class sessions have been overwhelmingly positive - and we thank you for your participation and feedback. A group of Safe Church trainers have been working throughout the summer to suggest some changes to the curriculum to provide some updated content, while still covering the basics for those new to Safe Church and providing review for those who need to be recertified.

Effective immediately, Safe Church training requirements will be as follows:

For FIRST TIME participants:

The following FIVE online modules are required through Armatus 2.0:

Meet Sam, It Happened to Me, Keeping Our Church Safe, Safeguarding God's People - Preventing Sexual Exploitation in Communities of Faith - FOR CONGREGATIONS, and Your Policies.

After completing the five modules, attendance at a regional class is required.

For RECERTIFICATION participants:

Attendance at a regional class is required. Online modules are not required.

Reviewing the module "*Keeping Your Church Safe*" is strongly encouraged in advance of the class.

Please note: Recertification participants must login into their Armatus 2.0 account to make sure they have completed the five modules required for first time participants and to print out their certificate indicating their completion of the modules. They need to bring this certificate to class.

FOR CLERGY:

Canonically resident or licensed clergy who are active in a parish or regularly providing supply ministry are required to participate in Safe Church training every three years.

Extra-parochial clergy who work with youth are also required to participate in Safe Church training every three years.

For clergy who have not participated in Safe Church training through the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire before, the following FIVE online modules are required through Armatus 2.0 no later than January 12, 2017:

Meet Sam, It Happened to Me, Keeping Our Church Safe, Safeguarding God's People - Preventing Sexual Exploitation in Communities of Faith - FOR CONGREGATIONS, and Your Policies.

For both first time participants and for recertification, ALL CLERGY are required to attend the Safe Church and Title IV training day provided by the Diocese on January 12, 2017 at St. Peter's Church in Londonderry. For information and registration click here: <http://www.nhepiscopal.org/event-calendar/2017/1/12/clergy-safe-church-and-title-iv-training>. If you cannot attend this training, please contact Canon Hannah Anderson or Tina Pickering for alternative arrangements.

The link to the Armatus online training site is: <http://armatus2.praesidiuminc.com/armatusUser/login>

As always, Safe Church training dates, information, policies and resources can be found www.nhepiscopal.org/safe-church.

Please note: We are trying to schedule sufficient Safe Church training classes to accommodate all of those who need training, but we rely on the good graces of volunteer trainers. If you or anyone in your parish would like to facilitate Safe Church trainings on behalf of the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire, please contact Tina Pickering at tpickering@nhepiscopal.org. Safe Church Trainers are required to have participated in Safe Church training themselves, attend a training meeting, and agree to facilitate two trainings per year in their region.

Safe Church ministers with any questions, concerns, or issues around registering participants for online training or class should contact Lynn Eaton at leaton@nhepiscopal.org.

Thank you for your time, energy, and commitment to this important ministry.

Yours in Christ,

Tina Pickering and Lynn Eaton
on behalf of Safe Church Officer Rev. Canon Hannah Anderson