

# Safe Church Training



Our congregation – Montclair Presbyterian Church -- is doing a new thing to help protect our children and youth, and you are invited to join us. We will be holding a Safe Church training session on May 21 from 10am – 2pm. You may be wondering - what is Safe Church training?

Causing harm to a minor is an unthinkable crime, but abuse often happens in places we consider 'safe.' This training will help you identify different types of abuse and provides guidelines to help you prevent it long before a child (or a vulnerable elder) is in danger. I am sure we can all recollect stories of people who were supposed to protect children and failed. We want to prevent tragedies like this from happening at MPC. In addition to the training, we will be working to create a written "safe church policy" that all of our volunteers will read and sign. A safe church policy is important both morally and fiscally. As our congregation ages the safe church policy will be critical for both our youth and for vulnerable elders as well.

Please RSVP to Marilee Niemi, Chairperson of the Children & Youth Committee at MPC:  
mjniemi1 @ yahoo.com

The training is led by Jane Odell of San Jose Presbytery.  
May 21, 10AM-2PM, at Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701  
Thornhill Drive, Oakland CA.