Boone Memorial Presbyterian Church Process for Response to an Accusation of Abuse

Should you witness or suspect abuse on church property/at church-sponsored events, follow these steps. Do not interrogate or question the victim, suspected abuser, or any possible witnesses, as this may compromise a formal investigation and/or lead to greater risk of harm for those involved. All involved in this process are expected to keep the details as private as possible for the protection of both the victim and the accused.

The Safe Child Response Team is responsible for ensuring that this policy and all relevant laws are followed. This team consists of the current chair of Personnel, the moderator of deacons, and the pastor. The Executive Presbyter of Snake River Presbytery will also be consulted as an ex-officio member of the team. There may also be two additional at-large members.

- 1. If there is any reason to suspect immediate danger, ensuring everyone's safety is of the utmost importance. If needed, call 911 to request emergency responders.
- 2. Contact the pastor immediately. If the pastor is suspected to be involved in the abuse or cannot be reached, contact another member of the response team (see below for contact information).
- 3. Together with the pastor or other person named above, contact the appropriate emergency services.
- 4. Provide a written report detailing the incident(s) and the response taken. Include as much detail as possible, including the date(s) and time(s). Keep a signed copy for yourself. A signed copy will be kept in the church office.
- 5. Remember: the privacy of all involved is of the utmost importance. Do not share details with other church members, community members, or the media.

2026 Important Names & Phone Numbers

Pastor: Rev. Katey Schwind Williams, 208-696-1214

Chair of Personnel: Howard Van Slyke, 208-250-1398

Chair of Deacons: Jan Van Slyke, 208-250-5105

Executive Presbyter (Interim): Rachel Yates, 303-809-2626

At Large Member: Kathy Neufeld, 208-453-8420

At Large Member: Rick Mack, 541-786-4662

To report child abuse, neglect or abandonment:

Treasure Valley Hotline: 208-334-KIDS (5437) Statewide Hotline: 855-552-KIDS (5437) Caldwell Police: 208-455-3115 Canyon County Sheriff: 208-454-7510