PRESBYTERY OF EAST TENNESSEE

Mandated Policies

Book of Order Requirements

The **Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)** requires that all councils — sessions, presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly — *shall adopt and implement policies* to prevent misconduct and ensure the safety and well-being of all people within the church's care (G-3.0106; G-4.0302).

Every council must have the following **written policies** in place:

- **Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy**
- **Child, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy**
- **Harassment Prevention Policy**
- **Antiracism Policy**

These policies are required for accountability, transparency, and to uphold the church's call to justice, equity, and safety in all relationships.

Developing Your Church's Policies

When creating or updating your congregation's policies, start by consulting your **insurance carrier**. Most church insurers provide templates and best-practice resources.

- **Child Safety**
  - *Brotherhood Mutual Child Safety Guide (PDF)* — excellent policies and procedures.
  - *Guide One Policy Templates* — downloadable samples for congregations.
- **Antiracism**
  - PET Anti-Racism Policy
  - *COGA Antiracism Guidelines (PDF)*
  - *PC(USA) Antiracism Resources*
- **Sexual Misconduct**
  - *Presbytery of East Tennessee Sexual Misconduct Policy*
  - *PC(USA) Sexual Misconduct Policy and its Procedures*

✅ **Summary:**
All congregations are constitutionally required to:

1. **Adopt and implement three written policies**: sexual misconduct, child/youth/vulnerable adult protection, and antiracism.
2. **Ensure boundary training** is completed every three years by ministers, educators, session members, and key leaders.
3. **Use Presbytery, PC(USA), and insurance resources** for templates, guidance, and compliance.