

PASTORS

Safe Gatherings

Every three years the Presbytery of Central Nebraska requires all Ministers of Word & Sacrament, Commissioned Pastors, and others serving congregations to complete boundaries training every three years. Here is the wording from the Presbytery Manual:

GUIDELINES FOR ETHICS/BOUNDARIES TRAINING

All teaching elders (Ministers of Word & Sacrament) and lay pastors (Commissioned Pastors) are required to present proof of participation in an ethics/boundaries event at least once every three years. If such proof is not provided, that information will be shared with references calling to check on a candidate's suitability for a call. The presbytery's committee on ministry commits to providing such an event at least once every three years and will accept participation in an event sponsored by other entities.

In previous years this has been done in person. The Presbytery Council has made the decision to use SafeGatherings for boundaries training and background screening. Completing the program can be done on your own time with your own computer. **The screening and training must be completed by January 31, 2022.**

The cost for the training and screening is \$75. If this is a hardship or cannot be covered by your professional expenses the presbytery can reimburse you for part of or all the cost. This will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Presbyter and the Chair of Business and Budget Committee. Contact Polly at (308) 520-8216 or by email at polly@centralnepresby.org.

Here are the instructions to register:

You may submit an online application at www.safegatherings.com and click on "Get Started."

Then you will make the following selections:

- ⇒ Choose your type of organization: **Church or Faith Based**
- ⇒ Select Denomination: **Presbyterian**
- ⇒ Select the State: **NE**
- ⇒ Type the Unique part of your organization: **Central Nebraska**
- ⇒ Select from the drop down list: **Presbytery of Central Nebraska**
- ⇒ Continue with the rest of the application.

Keeping and learning good boundary behavior is hard. As church leaders, we are constantly challenged to take the higher road when dealing with parishioners, colleagues, and ethical decisions.

Individuals can login to their account at any time to check the status of their application.

Contact

Contact the Safe Gatherings team at contact@safegatherings.com or 888.241.8258 for additional information or with questions about the program.