

The “Why” of Safe Haven

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.” Psalm 91:2

God’s loving embrace enfolds us and is our protective shield. The Church and its congregations are the day-to-day human manifestation of that embrace and shield. We, the people of God, are entrusted with the responsibility to ensure that all our ministries keep the young, the vulnerable, our elderly and their caregivers safe from all harm and abuse.

Child and elder abuse, sexual misconduct, misuse of power and authority, violation of the vulnerable, bullying, abuse of drugs and alcohol are just a few of the harmful interactions in our culture. Christ the King Lutheran Church (CtK) cannot ignore this reality. In God’s love, we must respond with direct, positive, and preventative actions to build and sustain CtK as a Safe Haven – a safe place for all people.

A Safe Haven is a place of security, safety, and protection from all harm and abuse. It is a space where children and adults experience the comfort of God’s embrace. People of all ages are entitled to such a place and space, whether they participate in ministries and activities offered on the grounds of CtK or off site. Creating a Safe Haven is a lifelong process of learning, caring, and keeping promises to protect and provide safety so all persons can flourish. This happens through relationships built on trust, integrity and respect. Awareness, education, and prevention planning are ways Christ the King Lutheran Church can be proactive and provide a Safe Haven for the people with whom we work and serve.

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