

_____, 20__

Dear Members and Friends of _____ Church of the Nazarene:

Greetings in the name of our Lord! As you know, our passion and goal at _____ is to connect people with God. The Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry at _____ are specifically reaching out to children and teens, respectively, in an effort to love kids and teens to Christ.

Unfortunately, abuse of children and teens, including sexual abuse, is a growing moral and legal problem in America, even in churches and church-related settings. Recognizing this threat to effective ministry, the Nazarene Church International has developed "Nazarene Safe," a system of policies and preventative procedures aimed at reducing the risk of abuse occurring in our local Nazarene churches and ministries.

After careful consideration, the _____ Church Administrative Board unanimously approved the attached "Resolution Approving Adoption And Implementation Of Nazarene Safe System." All _____ Church staff members and volunteers who work with children and/or teens at _____ in any capacity (i.e. quizzing, Sunday School, summer camp, Wednesday nights, nursery, etc.) are subject to the policy.

Accusations and actual incidents of child abuse have far-reaching effects. Child abuse can scar a child for life and devastate a family. Ministries are tarnished by such incidents; some have been severely damaged by the legal and emotional fallout. It is in the best interest of _____'s children, teens and families, as well as all of the staffers and volunteers working with children and teens, to take reasonable precautions to reduce the risk of child abuse from occurring in our church.

_____ 's Church leadership rejoices that so many of you have devoted service (in some cases for many years) to our children and/or teens. We give our heartfelt thanks and encourage each of you to "carry on" in such service to our Lord. We also strongly encourage others who have yet to be involved in these ministries to "step up" if the Lord is so leading you. The Nazarene Safe policy will help to foster an environment for even more effective ministry.

A Nazarene Safe seminar/informational meeting will be conducted in the near future for all staffers and volunteers who work with children and/or teens. Watch the bulletin for the announcement, including date and time.

Again, thank you, and let us all join together in continuing to connect our kids and teens to God!