



## A SAFE CHURCH RESPECTS THE DIGNITY OF EVERY HUMAN BEING

*“Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?” (BCP pg. 305)*

The above questions, taken from our Baptismal Covenant, provide the theological and ethical foundation for all of our Safe Church policies and trainings. As the people of God in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta we are committed to the safety of all God’s people and to the integrity of all our ministries. Thank you for making the time to participate in these trainings designed to communicate important information that will help you and your parish keep everyone safe.

THE RIGHT REV. ROBERT C. WRIGHT  
BISHOP OF ATLANTA

Thank you to each of you for your commitment to making the church we all love a safe place for children, the vulnerable, and those who don't even realize they are vulnerable. Your faithful work is essential to helping our church live out our community commitment to the baptismal covenant, and we are grateful.

THE REV. CANON ALICIA SCHUSTER-WELTNER  
CANON TO THE ORDINARY

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I appreciated the backbone of  
the class - the dignity of all  
from the Baptismal Covenant.

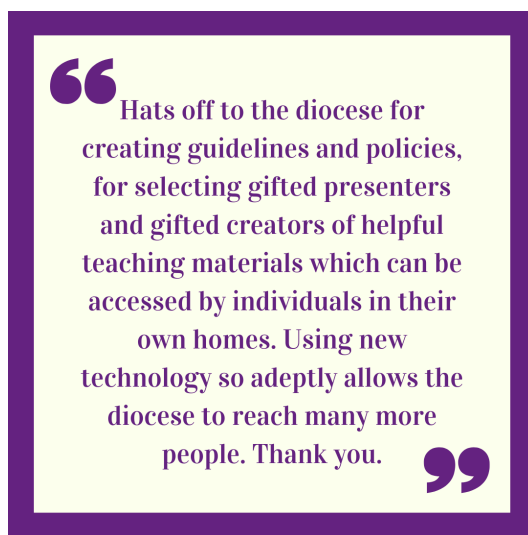
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## WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING / SAFE CHURCH?

**Safeguarding God's Children** training seeks to protect the thousands of children who are served every year in our churches, worshiping communities, schools, programs and activities. This training must be renewed every 3 years.

**Safeguarding God's People** training seeks to protect adults, including our elders, from sexual exploitation and abuse in every and all ministry settings. This training must be renewed every 5 years.

Our commitment at the Diocese of Atlanta is to keep all of God's beloved nurtured in faith and safe from abuse of any kind.



## WHO IS REQUIRED TO TAKE SAFEGUARDING GOD'S CHILDREN TRAINING:

- All clergy whether stipendiary, non-stipendiary, or otherwise who are engaged in ministry or service to the church.
- Seminarians and interns.
- All persons who teach, supervise or assist with supervising children or youth in ministries, programs or activities more often than occasionally.
- All paid or volunteer Church Personnel whose work regularly takes them throughout the facility or grounds.
- All persons who provide transportation to children or youth without other adults in the vehicle more than occasionally.
- All vestry members or members of similar decision-making groups who have the authority to approve the creation of ministries, programs or activities for children or youth.

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Thank you for taking the time to help us prepare for our work with children. I thought the two presenters were knowledgeable, responded to questions with accuracy and sensitivity, and were well-organized.

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### WHO IS REQUIRED TO TAKE SAFEGUARDING GOD’S PEOPLE TRAINING:

- All clergy whether stipendiary, non-stipendiary, or otherwise who are engaged in ministry or service to the church.
- Seminarians, interns and lay chaplains.
- Church employees.
- Vestry members.
- Lay pastoral care ministers (including Stephen Ministers and Community of Hope ministers).
- Spiritual directors, eucharistic visitors, hospital visitors authorized by the church.
- Leaders and facilitators of all adult programs and small group ministries.

### SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FORMATS

Regularly scheduled, 2-hour trainings via ZOOM with a prerequisite of the completion of one Praesidium Academy module depending upon whether the trainee is renewing or completing for the first time.

Occasional, in-person, full 3-hour training by a diocesan Safe Church trainer are periodically offered. There is no online prerequisite.

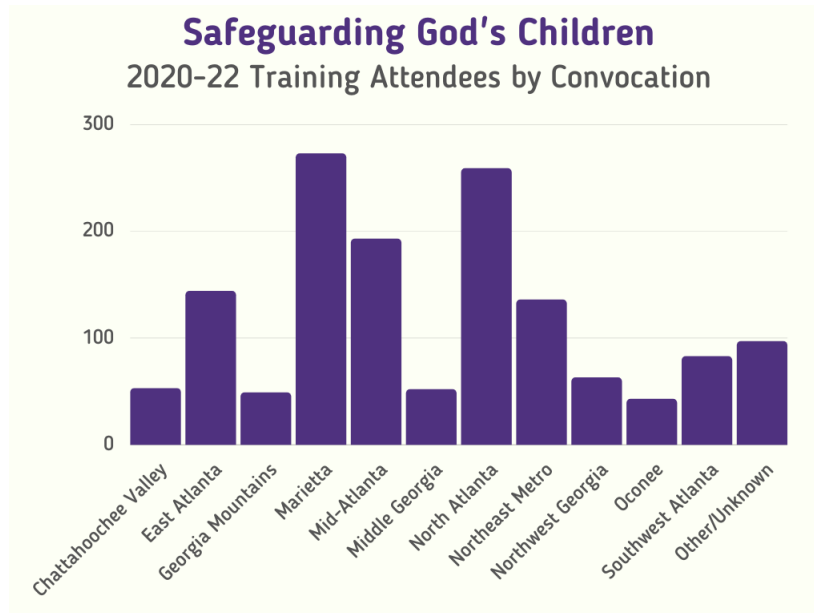
To view the training schedule for the first quarter of 2023 and to register for a Safeguarding God's Children or Safeguarding God's People training session visit <https://safechurchatlanta.org/training/>

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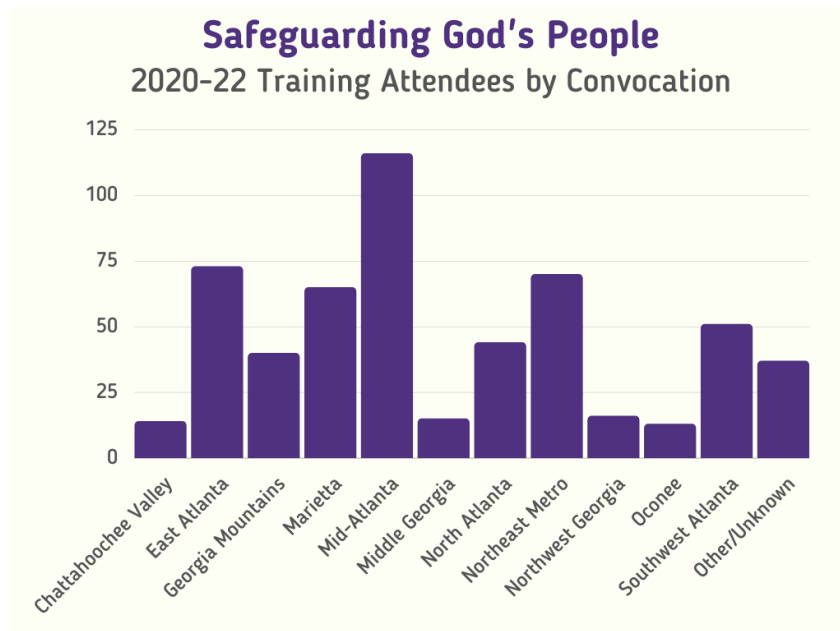
It was informative, concise, and important information. Thank you for the time and effort that went into this course (and our policies).

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## SAFEGUARDING TRAINING ATTENDANCE



In total, **1,435** people attended Safeguarding God's Children training (either via zoom or in person) during the period of April 2020 to November 2022.



In total, **554** people attended Safeguarding God's People training (either via zoom or in person) during the period April 2020 to November 2022.

