

Policy For Ministering To Registered Sex Offenders

Adopted October 16, 2018

As we seek to fulfill the great commission to preach the gospel to all, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to provide a safe environment for the most vulnerable of our people, we recognize that we live in a broken world and that ministry is not neat and tidy. Ministry to broken people means meeting them where they are and not where we would like them to be. The reality of sin affects every aspect of our outreach to hurting and sinful people. We wish to evangelize and disciple all men and women to the extent God allows, but also to take very seriously and soberly the responsibility to keep our children from harm. In this context and to these ends, Slater Baptist Church shall abide by the following safety and accountability guidelines when a person who is on a registered sex offender list seeks to fellowship with and/or join our church.

- I. The Pastor(s) And Deacons Shall Contact The Person To Determine Cause, Intent On Attendances, And Registry Tier.
- II. The Pastor(s) And Deacons Shall Seek Direction From An Attorney And Any Relevant State Organizations.
- III. The Church Leadership Shall Make Such Person Known To The Membership During Any Church Business Meeting. The Level Of Danger Determined By The State Shall Be Discussed, But The Details Of The Cause Shall Be Disclosed At The Discretion Of The Person, Pastor(s), Deacons, And Attorneys.
- IV. The Minimum Guidelines For Such A Person Shall Be:
 - a. He or She Shall Be Disallowed From Serving In Children's Ministry
 - b. He Or She Shall Confer Regularly With The Pastor
 - c. He Or She Shall Be Assigned An Accountability Partner For Every Church Attendance
 - d. He Or She Shall Not Be Allowed In Any Multi Use Public Restrooms Without A Second Adult Present.
 - e. He Or She Shall Connect The Pastor(s) To His Or Her Parole Officer.
 - f. He Or She May (As Per Our Insurance Policy) Only Attend One Weekly Formal Church Gathering.
 - g. If These Guidelines Are Willfully Broken, That Person Will Be Excluded And/Or Expelled From The Services And/Or Membership Of The Church.
- V. Additional Guidelines, Depending Upon The Tier, Cause, And Advice Of The Attorney, May Include Exclusion And/Or Expulsion From The Regular Services And/Or Membership Of The Church.