September 24, 2015

To: Prospective Approved Adults

From: The Child Protection Policy Committee

Zion has been working diligently over the last few years to make our church a safe place for our children and youth. Since the PA laws have changed, we’ve taken part in the Safe Church Program of Samaritan Counseling Center in order to insure that our new Child Protection Policy covers all of the necessary areas and is compliant with state and federal laws. In preparation for volunteering in our ministries with children and youth, you have been asked to complete some of this paperwork but not all. Listed below is the paperwork that is required in your file to make it complete; the forms you are missing have been noted and are attached.

 Approved Adult Application Form

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Consent/Release of Information Authorization Form (If we are submitting your application information, or in order to have the certifications returned to the church.)

 PA Criminal Record Check

 PA Child Abuse Certification

 FBI Background Check (if you have lived in PA less than 10 years)

 Covenant of Child Protection

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer Swear & Affirm Statement (Based on Legal Disqualifications List)

Having all the approved paperwork in your file will make you an Approved Adult who is permitted to work with children and youth. Some of you are currently on the schedules; some of you are not but are so concerned for the welfare of our children that you’ve decided to become an Approved Adult anyway. And some of you might be willing to help out if the need should ever arise (helping in a short-handed classroom, working at VBS, etc.)

***You may complete applications for both the PA Criminal Record Check and the PA Child Abuse Certification online or through the mail. Instructions are attached. If you would like for us to submit your information, include a signed copy of the “Consent/Release of Information Authorization Form”. Please bring all completed forms and copies of your approved certifications to the Church Office as soon as possible.***

Thank you so much for your support of the Safe Church program. We are so thankful for a church family that wants to protect the well-being of our children and youth and has been so cooperative in helping us to comply with the law.

***Zion’s Child Protection Policy Committee***

Pat Landis, Kim Paternoster, Pat Brady, Chris Reinford, Jon Wright and Pastor JMe Lowden