



November 16, 2020

Greetings from the Board of Ordained Ministry and the office of Bishop Elaine Stanovsky.

In a year when so much attention has necessarily been on COVID-19, renewing our commitment to sexual ethics remains a crucial piece of how we seek to do no harm. With increased domestic abuse in the news and increased stress a reality for all of us, we must continue to ensure that vulnerable people are safe when they come into contact with any of our ministries or with anyone representing the Church. While gatherings in our buildings remain very limited, our online ministries have increased exponentially. Sadly, the online environment is also one where sexual misconduct and abuse may occur. When we return to in-person gatherings in our churches, the understandable eagerness for physical contact will create opportunity for predators to cross personal, ethical and professional boundaries with unwanted hugs, kisses, or back rubs.

Since 2008, the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference sexual ethics policy has formalized our commitment to do no harm, to protect our congregations, and to lead lives worthy of the calling we share as clergy and church leaders. This annual, online test is one way in which we live out this commitment.

Successful completion of this test fulfills the first requirement of our sexual ethics policy. You will need to read and understand the policy and its implications for all clergy and other pastoral leaders under assignment in our Conference.

Our goal is for all of us to be familiar with the sexual ethics policy so that we can eliminate clergy sexual misconduct and child abuse.

You can find the sexual ethics policy beginning on page 44 of the 2020 Conference Journal. It is also posted on our Conference website here: [Conference Sexual Ethics Policy](#). You may refer to the sexual ethics policy while taking this test.

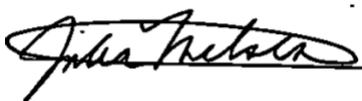
You must answer all 10 questions correctly in order to pass the test. You may take the test repeatedly. Once you have successfully completed this test, your results will be sent to the Board of Ordained Ministry's administrative assistant, who will share that information with your District Superintendent's office. The deadline for successful completion is December 18, 2020.

Thank you again for taking the time to do this important work, and for all the ways you lead vital ministry in our Conference.

In Christ,



Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky



Reverend Julia Nielsen, Chair, Oregon-Idaho Board of Ordained Ministry