

Classis Huron Safe Church Committee Report, September 2021

Mandate: Classis Huron Safe Church Committee is mandated:

1. To function as an Abuse Response Team according to Synodical Guidelines (as annotated for Classis Huron).
2. To provide comprehensive and on-going education and support to our churches in the prevention of and response to abuse.
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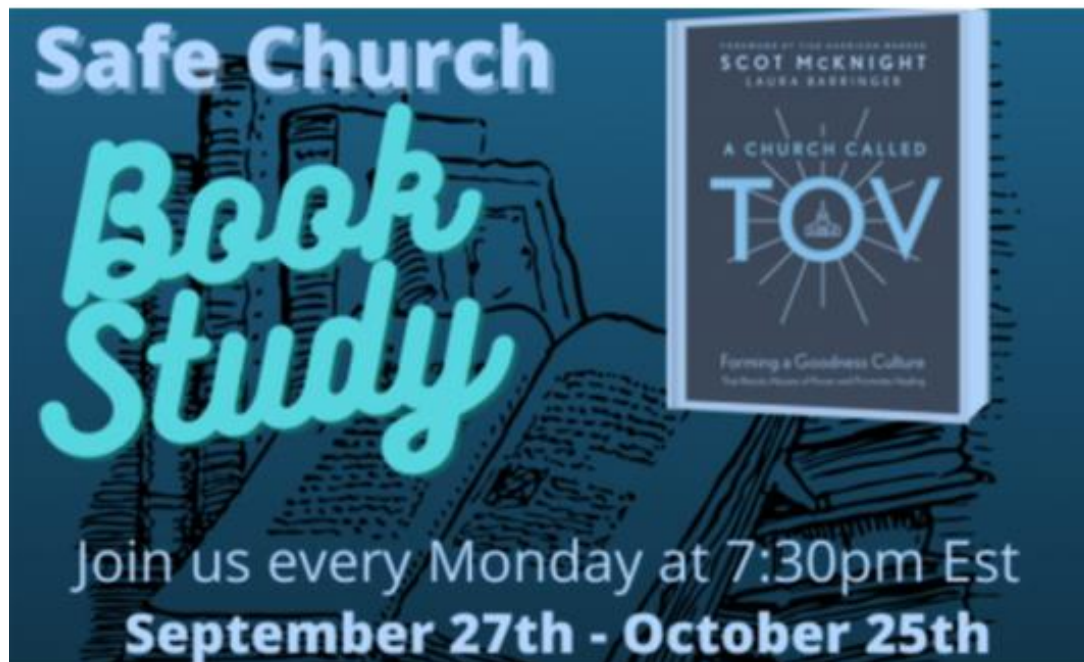
New Member

We warmly welcome Melinda Saunders, representing River City Church, to the committee and are looking forward to meeting her in person in the near future.

We are still looking for representation from the Cambridge, Lucknow and Vanastra churches.

Updates from the office of Safe Church Ministries

On July 14, almost 1000 people attended the webinar with Dr Scot McKnight, author of “A Church called Tov”, Forming a goodness culture that resists Abuses of Power and promotes Healing. Dr. Scot has agreed to host a virtual, five-week book study starting on September 27, for details and registration see below.



Invitation to Virtual Book Study: A Church Called TOV

Safe Church Ministry is hosting a virtual book study open to all interested in learning more about creating a TOV (good) culture in our churches! We will be reading *A Church Called TOV: Forming a Goodness Culture that Resists Abuses of Power and Promotes Healing* by Laura Barringer and Scot Mcknight. Join us Monday evenings at 7:30 pm Eastern/ 4:30 pm Pacific for Five weeks, starting *September 27th through October 25th*.

[Join us by registering here](#)

Abuse Awareness Sunday

PREPARING FOR ABUSE AWARENESS SUNDAY

Worship Resources for Abuse Awareness Sunday 2021

Sunday, September 26th is Abuse Awareness Sunday. This year our theme is Safe Church Ministry: Not Just a Policy, a Way of Being the Church. In anticipation of this Sunday, Safe Church has put together a number of resources to help you incorporate abuse awareness into your worship service. Consider, for instance, a sermon on Galatians 6:2, exploring what it means for a congregation to help carry the burdens of those who are survivors of abuse, or a prayer of lament and dedication that grieves the harm done to those who have been abused and commits to coming alongside survivors in their journey toward healing. Your church could play our new video during the offering to inspire greater abuse prevention and awareness in your congregation. Check out this link for more ideas and resources to help raise abuse awareness in your congregation!

[Resources](#)

SEPTEMBER TOWN HALL MEETING

Safe Church Town Hall: September 8th, 7pm Eastern

Calling all coordinators, Safe Church classis team members, Classis Clerks, Classis Chairs, Congregational Safe Church Leader and friend of Safe Church! On September 8th, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Safe Church Ministry staff will host a town hall. Come ready to hear about our vision for the year to come, meet other safe church volunteers, and learn about our newest resources that will support your work with Safe Church ministry. Looking forward to seeing you there!

[Register Here](#)

New Resources

Classis Huron Safe Church Committee has bought a number of Dr Scot's books for those interested in attending September's book discussion. It is the intention that these books will be donated to the church's library as a resource for future discussions for councils, church leaders etc.

The following books have been purchased and are available for either personal reading or as a resource for church leaders. If interested, please connect with me via email atie.safechurch@gmail.com or phone 519-576-0965.

When The Body Says No: The Cost of Hidden Stress *by Gabour Mate*

The Body Keeps the Score; Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma *by Bessel Van Der Kolk*
Workbook for The Body Keeps the Score *by Bessel Van Der Kolk*

You Are Enough; Learning to Love Yourself the Way God Loves You *by Jonathan Puddle*

The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog; What Traumatized Children Can Teach Us About Loss, Love, and Healing *by Bruce Perry & Mala Szalavitz*

A Church Called TOV; Forming a Goodness Culture That Resists Abuses of Power and Promotes Healing *by Scot McKnight & Laura Barringer*

Annual Inter-Classis Safe Church Conference

We are in planning phase of finding and booking speakers on relevant abuse related topics for our Annual Inter-Classis Safe Church Conference to be held on March 5th, 2022.

Our hope is be able to meet in person, however, we have to be prepared for the possibility of offering an on-line version depending on the Covid-19 situation.

Respectfully submitted

Atie Ott

Coordinator

Classis Huron Safe Church Committee