First Parish in Concord, Unitarian Universalist

20 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742

**Code of Ethics for Working with Children and Youth**

First Parish in Concord is a place of safety for all children and youth. Anyone working with children in a leadership role in any of our church programs has the social, moral, and spiritual responsibility to protect the children and youth both physically and emotionally. Both volunteer and salaried staff members of the church share this responsibility.

Leaders of children and youth at First Parish assume the responsibility to nurture, to teach, to share in, and to celebrate the spiritual and moral development of our children and youth. Leaders make a commitment to foster a positive sense of self, a spirit of independence, and responsible behavior in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

No leader shall engage in behavior which may be construed as physically, verbally, or emotionally abusive. No leader shall ever engage in sexual, seductive, or erotic behavior with children or youth. Leaders shall refrain from being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, or any other drug that would impair their judgment or ability to function effectively in a leadership role with children or youth. In order to be in compliance with our Safe Congregation Guidelines, no leader shall be alone with any child.

I have read the “Religious Education Handbook: Guidelines for teachers and program leaders working with Children and Youth”, and hereby agree to abide by this Code of Ethics.

Signed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (please print your full name here)