



LEADERSHIP.  
EXCELLENCE.  
AGILITY.  
DISCOVERY.



# SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS WHEN USING AI

# Sharon **Asmus**

Chief Information Officer



Phone: 615-916-2729



Email: [sasmus@gcfa.org](mailto:sasmus@gcfa.org)



1908 Grand Ave. Nashville, TN 37212



[www.UMCSupport.org](http://www.UMCSupport.org)





The Omaha Christmas Blizzard - 2009

# Introduction

A little about me:

- I'm from Nebraska (#GBR)
- I moved to Nashville in 2010
- This is my 30<sup>th</sup> year in technology
- I'm a generalist – I know a little about a lot of things
- My expertise is with cyber security and data
- My superpower is translating tech speak into English
- I ♥ Excel
- Zero pets, 1 husband, 2 daughters, 3 plants
- My SEC team is Auburn (#wareagle)

# Overview Of AI

AI refers to the simulation of human intelligence in machines that are programmed to think and learn.

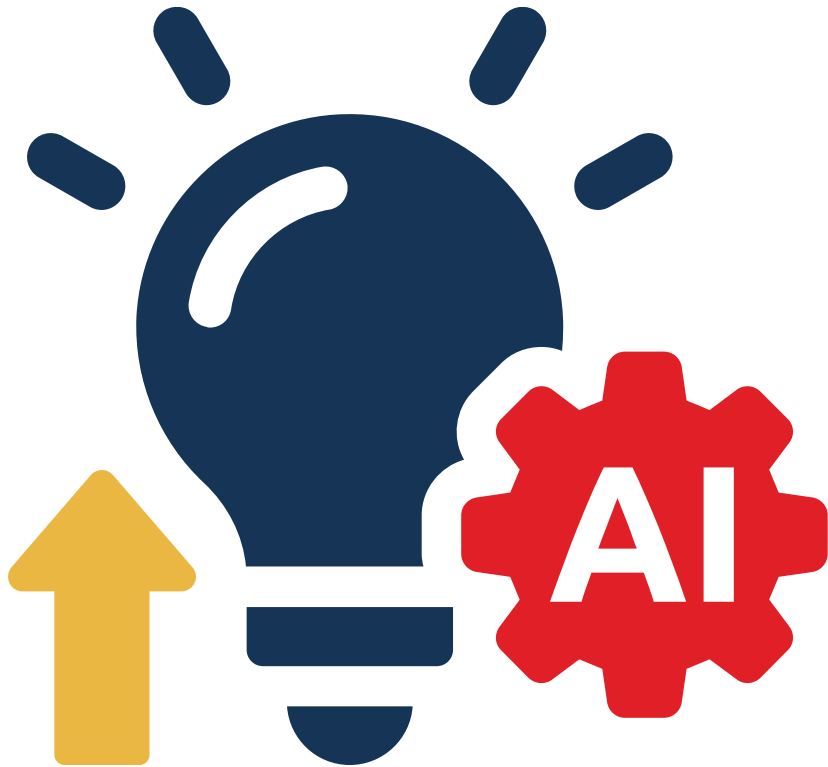




# Who Uses AI Today?



# Examples **Of AI** In Everyday Life



## Virtual Assistance

- Siri & Alexa

## Recommendations Systems

- Netflix & Amazon

## AI In Healthcare

- Diagnostic Tool & Personalized Treatment Plans

## AI In Finance

- Fraud Detection & Credit Scoring

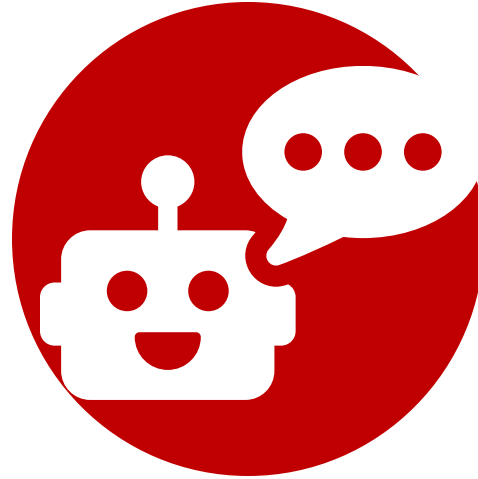
## Virtual Meeting Assistants

- Zoom & MS Teams

# Other **Acronyms**



Larger Language  
Models (LLM)

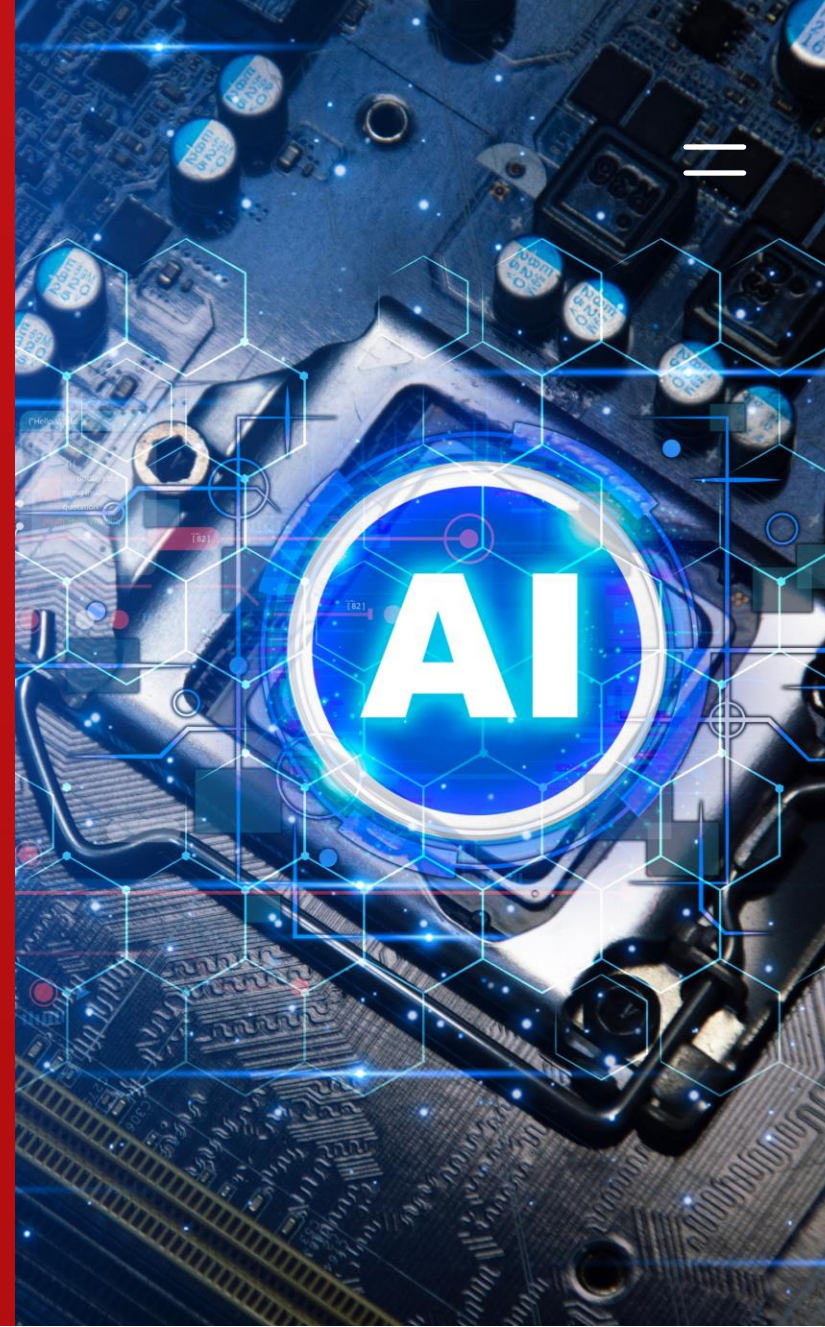


Generative AI



Agentic AI

# Understanding AI Safety







# Why Does AI Safety Matter

## Potential benefits of AI:

- Efficiency
- Accuracy
- Ability to handle large datasets



# Why Does AI Safety Matter

**Risks and challenges associated with AI:**  
Compliance and legal adherence, trust and transparency, data protection, privacy concerns, job displacement, and ethical dilemmas.



# Ethical **Considerations**

## Importance of ethical AI:

Ensuring AI benefits all  
and does not harm

## Examples



Bias in AI algorithms  
affecting hiring processes



Privacy issues with facial  
recognition technology



# Key Safety Considerations

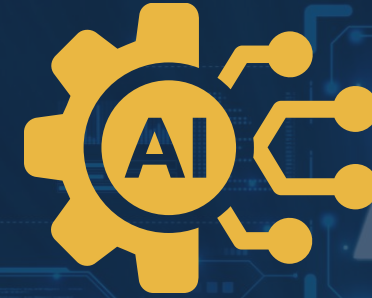




# Content **Generation**



As an AI user, you are required to review all AI-generated content before dissemination.



Reviewers should assess trademark or copyright infringement possibilities, accuracy, relevance, and potential biases.

# Data Privacy & Security

You can only input publicly available data into AI tools.



The organization's confidential or sensitive data should NEVER be input into AI tools.



Educate yourself on safe data sharing practices & reach out to your IT or UMC Support for help.



As needed, implement encryption, access controls, and anonymization techniques.

# Bias & Fairness



## As an AI user



You need to ensure that the AI models you are using are trained on diverse and representative data.



You will regularly monitor and address any biases that emerge during AI



You will educate yourself about potential biases and limitations

# Transparency & Accountability

## Ensuring accountability in AI decision-making:

Clear  
documentation  
of AI processes

You should understand  
how AI decisions  
are made

Mechanisms to  
challenge AI  
decisions



# Transparency & Accountability Cont.

**As an AI user, you are responsible for:**

Clearly communicating  
when AI systems are in  
use.

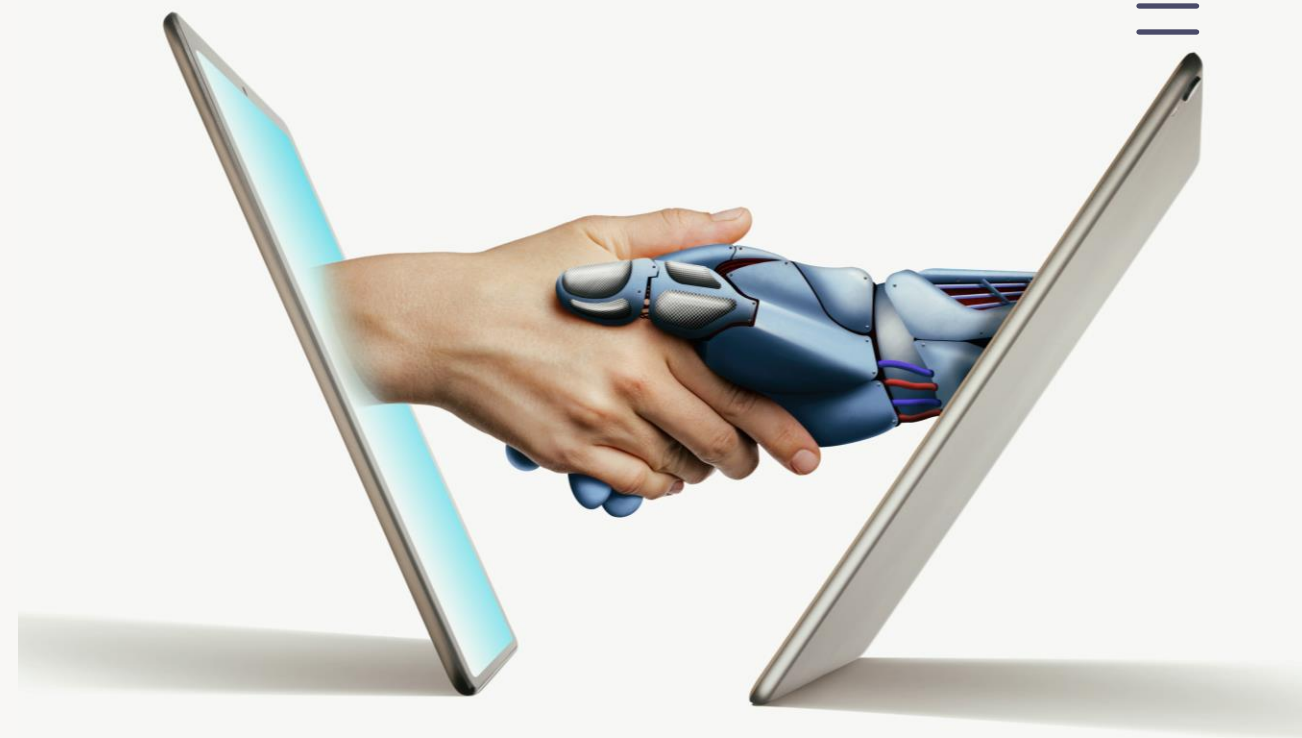
Provide explanations for  
AI-generated decisions  
where feasible.

Maintaining an audit trail  
of your AI activities.

# Implementing Safe AI Practices

## Guidelines for safe AI implementation

- Leverage [GCFA Artificial Intelligence Usage Rules Template](#)
- Adherence to ethical guidelines
- Regular monitoring and evaluation of AI systems



## Role of administrators in ensuring AI safety:

**Contract reviews of AI tools/products to understand how data is used**

### **Setting policies for AI use**

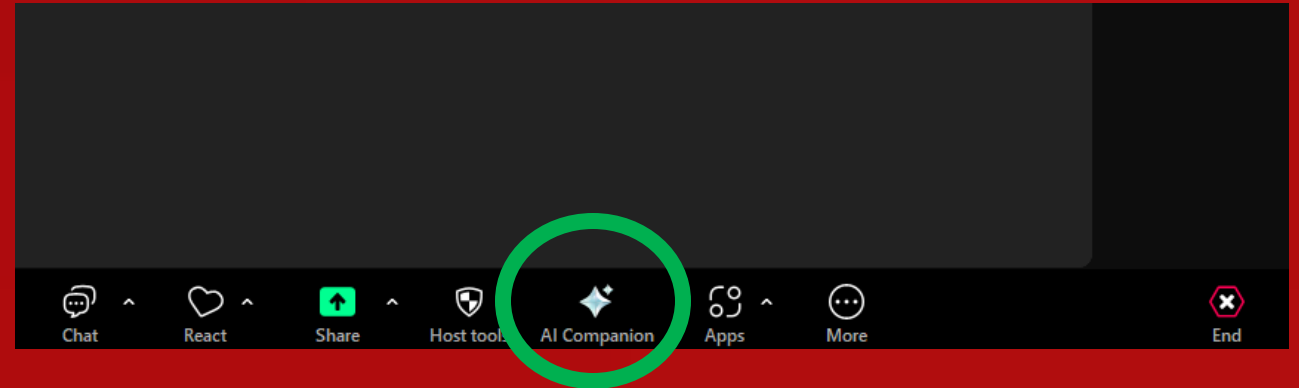
- Providing training and resources for staff

# Protecting Personal Data With Meeting Recording AI Tools



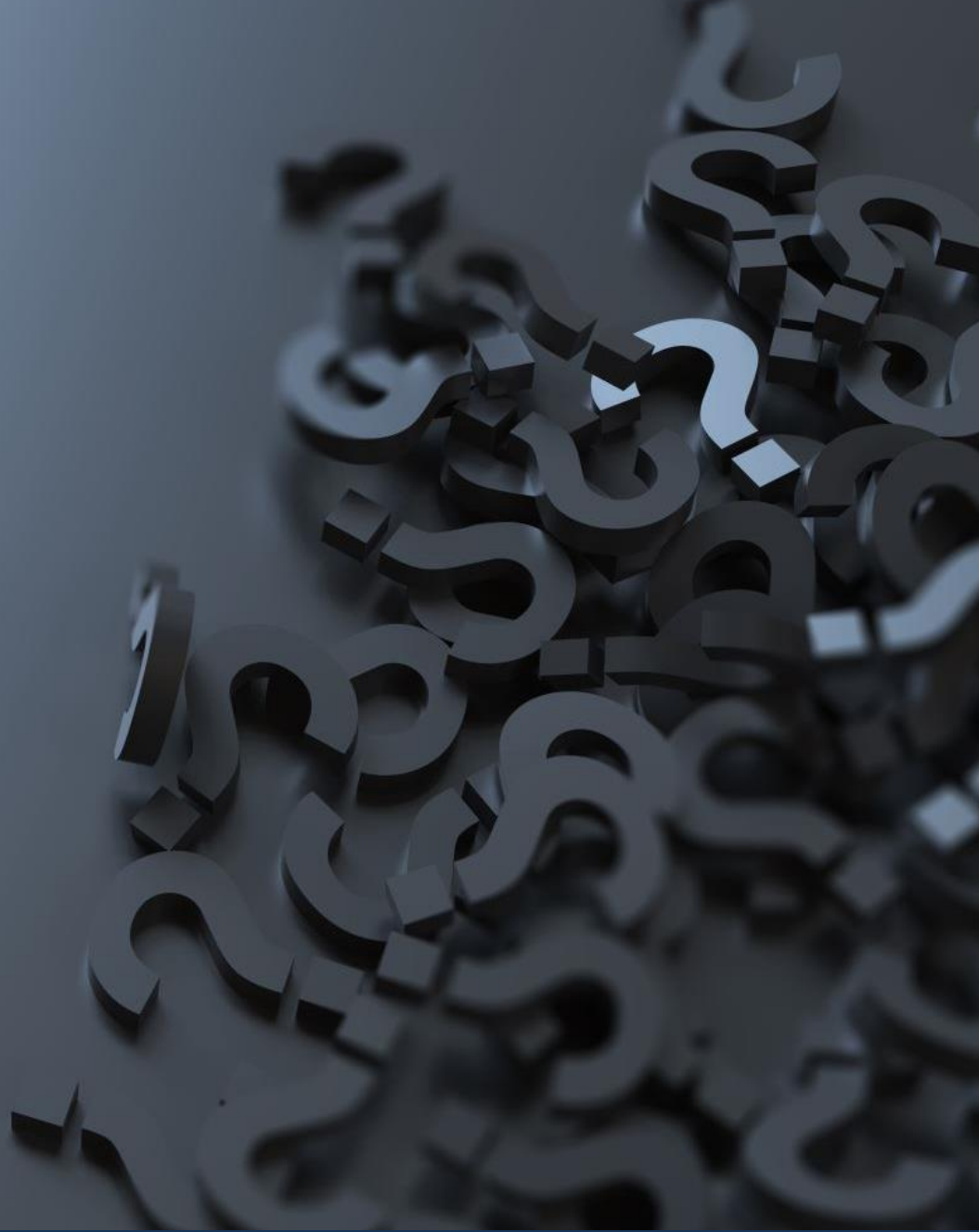
# Best Practices **For Data Protection**

- Select Secure AI Tools
- Limit Access
- Educate Participants
- Monitor Activity
- Update Software





# Questions?





# Final Thoughts



# Thank You!



Phone: 615-916-2729



Email: [sasmus@gcfa.org](mailto:sasmus@gcfa.org)



1908 Grand Ave. Nashville, TN 37212



[www.UMCSupport.org](http://www.UMCSupport.org)



**FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

General Council on Finance and Administration

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

