

Policy for the Use of Alcoholic Beverages at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

January 7, 2016

The Church strives always to provide a safe, welcoming and nourishing environment for all people, especially remaining sensitive to those who may be in recovery. Therefore, the following policies shall remain in full force and effect at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church unless otherwise amended by the Vestry.

1. St. Margaret's Episcopal Church will insure that it is in compliance with all federal, state and local laws, regulations, and ordinances.
2. Under any circumstances through which the church might lease and/or invite the use of its premises to a third party who will be serving alcohol, the following shall apply: a written agreement whereby the third party understands that it must follow the policy contained herein. This written agreement should contain language that holds the church harmless of, and indemnifies it in any instance, whereby the Lessee/Invitee shall be responsible for any acts of negligence or misconduct.
3. Serving of alcoholic beverages at functions, other than wine and beer, must be approved by the vestry in advance.
4. At any time that alcohol is to be served at a church or church sponsored event, an adult at least 21 years old will be assigned the responsibility of overseeing the distribution of said alcohol. The person(s) in charge shall likewise be responsible for insuring that minors do not have access to alcohol, and should see that alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks are available from separate service areas in order to prevent underage drinking.
5. At any event at which alcohol is served, an appealing non-alcoholic alternative will always be offered with equal prominence, attractiveness, and accessibility.
6. All drinks and food will be clearly labeled if they contain alcohol.
7. Alcohol will not be served or consumed under the following circumstances:
 - a. During any event in which the primary focus of the activity involves minors;
 - b. By any adult who is acting as a leader, counselor, or who in any capacity shall have supervisory responsibility over minors;
 - c. Before or during business sessions (for example, vestry or committee meetings); or,
 - d. When food is not served at the same event.
8. Alcohol will not be featured in the advertising or promotion of any church event.