

Alcohol Use Policy Christ Church Episcopal
(Approved by Vestry 3/27/2019)

The Community of Christ Church Episcopal seeks to live out its Vision of Being the Church through practicing radical hospitality, being the heart and hands of Jesus and nurturing spiritual formation through all aspects of our church life.

In accordance with our Vision, we aspire to be a place in which we have open conversations about alcohol, substance misuse, or addiction. These conversations are not simply about treatment but about compassion, wholeness and healing.

In the spirit of promoting the responsible use of alcohol at church and fellowship events, the Vestry of Christ Church Episcopal, has approved the following guidelines to govern the usage of alcoholic beverages in connection with functions held at church facilities and for programs and events, taking place off site.

The guidelines are provided to:

- Create a safe and welcoming environment for all God's people, including those in recovery
- To assure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations
- To assure CCE and its members are adequately protected under existing liability insurance policies

GUIDELINES

1. There will be no CCE events, onsite or offsite, involving alcohol consumption without the prior written permission of the rector and vestry (email ok). For offsite events, the event coordinator will assure the rector that these guidelines will be followed.
2. There will be no alcohol served at events where minors are in attendance.
3. If permission is given, the appropriate ABC license must be obtained from the Commonwealth of Virginia by the event coordinator and presented to the rector no fewer than two days in advance of the event. The event coordinator will make sure all requirements of the license are fulfilled.
4. Alcohol must not be the focus of the event or advertised as such.
5. Food must be served at all events when alcohol is present.
6. All food and drinks containing alcohol must be labeled as such.
7. Non-alcoholic alternatives must be offered with equal attractiveness and accessibility.

8. There will be no church business discussed during or after the serving of alcohol.
9. At events where the attendance is expected to be 50 persons or more, alcohol will be served by a professional bartender, who provides a certificate of insurance showing liquor liability coverage to the rector no fewer than two days in advance of the event.
10. As part of the approval process for a CCE event or program to include alcohol, the event coordinator will be given a copy of these guidelines. The event coordinator must commit to recruiting a point person who will abstain from alcohol consumption and be prepared to assist if someone drinks to excess. This includes providing alternative transportation for anyone whose capacity to drive is visibly impaired. Responsible consumption should be required (e.g., no more than three drinks in a three hour period).
11. Onsite, events including alcohol will not be held in the Worship building or the Education building.
12. In addition to church events, this policy will apply to use of church facilities by persons/groups, either members or those outside CCE, when they use facility space.

This policy specifically excludes sacramental events where communion wine is included as part of the service.