

APPLICATION FOR BUILDING USE

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A Model Policy on the Use of Alcoholic Beverages in Congregations

*(Revised and adopted by the Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council 12/16/2009;
adopted by the Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council to apply to diocesan events, 12/16/2009)*

This Diocese seeks to welcome and minister to all of God's people. To that end, parishes and the diocese must purposefully regulate alcohol use at their functions. Responsible alcohol use or abstinence is required at all church functions.

The serving and/or consumption of non-sacramental alcohol at any church or diocesan related event, whether held on church property or elsewhere, are permitted only when all of the following conditions are met:

- The clergy, wardens and vestry approve the serving of alcohol prior to the event and ensure that responsible adults oversee the serving of alcoholic beverages to assure full compliance with this policy, including the moderate consumption of alcohol.
- All laws regarding alcohol are complied with including those related to the sale of alcoholic beverages and the prohibition on serving alcohol to minors (those under 21 years of age.)
- The event is not a youth event or youth sponsored event. (See Diocesan Policies for the Protection of Children and Youth.)
- Moderation is observed in the serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- No business or open discussion of issues is conducted during or after the serving of alcohol. Business includes the work of vestry, search committee, all church committees and councils, and church schools.
- Non-alcoholic beverages are offered in a way that is equally attractive and accessible as alcoholic beverages.
- Any beverage or food which contains alcohol must be clearly labeled as such.
- The offering of alcohol is not advertised or promoted in any way, and shall not be the primary purpose of the event. Alcohol may never be used as an enticement for any function (e.g. wine tasting, wine & cheese, BYOB dinner, etc.)
- Prior to any event that is not "usual and customary," the clergy, wardens and vestry determine whether liquor liability insurance coverage is needed. Church events that are not "usual and customary" include events at which alcohol is sold and/or the serving of alcohol on church property by a tenant (e.g. wedding reception, civic group dinner, etc.) Ask the diocesan insurance officer before the event if liquor liability insurance is needed.