

POLICY

Facility Use Policy

Purpose Statement

The church's facilities were provided through God's benevolence and by the sacrificial generosity of church partners. The church desires that the schools as well as its facilities be used for the fellowship of the Body of Christ and to bring God glory. Although the facilities are not generally open to the public, we make limit our facilities availability to approved non-partners as a witness to our faith, in a spirit of Christianity, and as a means of demonstrating the Gospel of Jesus in practice.

But facility use will not be permitted to persons or groups holding, advancing, or advocating beliefs or practices that conflict with the church's faith or moral teachings, which are summarized in, among other places, the church's bylaws. Nor may church facilities be used for activities that contradict, or are deemed inconsistent with, the church's faith or moral teachings. The Ministry Team Leader over the designated area is the final decision-maker concerning use of church facilities.

This restricted facility use policy is necessary for two important reasons. First, the church may not in good conscience materially cooperate in activities or beliefs that are contrary to its faith. Allowing its facilities to be used for purposes that contradict the church's beliefs would be material cooperation with that activity, and would be a grave violation of the church's faith and religious practice. (2 Cor 6:14; 1 Thess 5:22.)

Second, it is very important that the church present a consistent message to the community, and that the church staff and members conscientiously maintain that message as part of their witness to the Gospel of Jesus. Allowing facilities to be used by groups or persons who express beliefs or engage in practices contrary to the church's faith would have a severe, negative impact on the message that the church strives to promote. It could also cause confusion and scandal to church partners and the community because they may reasonably perceive that by allowing use of our facilities, the church agrees with the beliefs or practices of the persons or groups using its facilities.

Therefore, in no event shall persons or groups who hold, advance, or advocate beliefs, or advance, advocate, or engage in practices that contradict the church's faith use any church facility. Nor may church facilities be used in any way that contradicts the church's faith. This policy applies to all church facilities, including the school, regardless of whether the facilities are connected to the church's main building, because the church sees all of its property as holy and set apart to worship God. (Col 3:17.)

Approved Users and Priority of Use

The Ministry Team leader must approve all uses of church facilities. Generally, the use of the church facilities are very limited. When applicable for use, priority shall be given to the school or organized groups that are part of the churches ministry, organization, or sponsored activities of the church. Church facilities will only be made to outside groups on a very limited basis and the following conditions.

1. Groups or persons requesting facility use must affirm that their beliefs and practices and planned uses of the facilities are consistent with the church's faith and practice.
2. The group or person seeking facility use must submit a request for use and approval to the designated Ministry Team Leader over that particular area.

3. The group or person seeking facility use must be willing to take responsibility for the facilities and equipment used and must agree to abide by the church and schools (if using kids buildings) rules of conduct for facility use, as stated below and as described in any additional instructions by church staff and in the ACA Acceptable Use Policy.

Facility Use Guidelines

1. Alcohol Policy: No alcohol may be served in church facilities.
2. Smoking Policy: Smoking or vaping in any indoor facilities is prohibited. If use is related to the school or kids buildings or surrounding outside areas of the kids buildings, all smoking or vaping in any area indoor or outdoor is prohibited.
3. Groups are restricted to only those areas of the facility that the group has reserved.
4. Food and beverages in all kids' buildings and school building classrooms is strictly prohibited unless it is for a Barefoot staff or ACA sponsored event.
5. Church equipment, such as tables and chairs, must be returned to original placement. The use of all rooms in the school is very limited due to the classroom set up. No tables, chairs, or furniture may be moved in any classroom in the kids' buildings.
6. All inside lights must be turned off, outside lights turned on, exterior doors locked, and alarm set upon departure.
7. Clean-up is the responsibility of the group. In the room(s) used as well as the bathrooms; all floors are to be vacuumed, swept and mopped, all trash receptacles are to have the bags replaced with clean ones and the used trash bags taken to the dumpster. Any smudges on glass or furniture are to be polished.
8. Abusive or foul language, violent behavior, and drug or alcohol abuse are strictly prohibited on church premises. Any person exhibiting such behavior will be required to leave the premises.
9. Any person or group must obtain approval to use the room with the Ministry Team Leaders over the designated area prior to reservation of church facilities.

I affirm that:

- I understand that the church does not allow its facilities to be used in a way that contradicts its faith or by persons or groups holding beliefs that contradict the church's faith.
- To the best of my knowledge the purpose for which I am requesting use of church facilities will not contradict the church's faith, and I commit to promptly disclose any potential conflict of which I am aware or become aware to church staff.
- I am not aware of any beliefs that are professed by me or the organization I represent and which is requesting use of the church's facilities that contradict the beliefs of the church. I agree to promptly disclose any potential conflicts in belief to church staff.
- I understand that the church does not allow its facilities to be generally available to the public, and that my use of these facilities is subject to the Ministry Team leaders approval, which is conditioned in part on my agreement to the requirements in the "Church Facility Use Policy," a copy of which I have read and understood.
- I understand that I will be responsible for any damages to the church facilities resulting from this proposed use of facilities.
- The church believes disputes are to be worked out between parties without recourse to the courts. See, generally, Matthew Chapter 18 and 1 Corinthians Chapter 6. Accordingly, users of the facility agree to attempt resolution of any disputes through Christian mediation.

Name _____

Date_____/_____/_____