



*the Episcopal Church  
in Wyoming*

## **Policies on the Use of Alcohol**

1. We should always seek to obey all applicable federal, state and local laws concerning alcohol, including those governing the serving of alcoholic beverages to minors. (GC Resolution [GCR] ¶2).
2. We seek to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all people, including people in recovery. (GCR ¶1) We aspire to be a place where our actions and conversations about alcohol, substance abuse and addiction lead to renewal and healing.
3. Some congregations may decide not to serve alcohol at events or gatherings. Others may decide to permit a limited use of alcoholic beverages at church-sponsored events. Both can be appropriate if approached mindfully. Food should be served when alcohol is present. (GCR ¶3 and 9b)
4. If alcohol is served, the rector, vicar, or priest-in-charge must appoint an adult over the age of 21 to monitor its serving. That adult must not drink alcoholic beverages during the time of his or her performance of his or her responsibilities. Those showing signs of intoxication must not be served. (GCR ¶4).
5. When alcohol is served appealing, non-alcohol alternatives should be offered with equal prominence and accessibility, and both options should be clearly labeled. (GCR ¶6 and 7)
6. Serving alcoholic beverages at congregational events where minors are present is strongly discouraged. If minors are present, alcohol must be served at a separate station that is monitored at all times to prevent underage drinking. (GCR ¶5)
7. Groups or organizations that sponsor the activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the clergy or the vestry. Such

groups or organizations must also assume responsibility for those persons who might become intoxicated and must provide alternative transportation for anyone whose capacity to drive may be impaired. (GCR ¶10)

8. Serving alcoholic beverages when the business of the church is being conducted is strongly discouraged, as we recognize the effects of alcohol as a mood altering drug. (GCR ¶11)
9. In worship, clergy should consecrate an appropriate amount of wine at the Eucharist and perform ablutions in a way that does not foster or model misuse. Clergy should consider providing non-alcoholic wine. (GCR ¶12, 13)

*“FAITH ON THE NEW FRONTIER”*

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