

Second Unitarian Church of Omaha

Alcohol Policy

Date of Policy Approval: 1/2009

Policy Updated:

Policy Owner: Fellowship Committee

The church allows limited use of alcohol at church- and member-sponsored events on its grounds. With its use comes the expectation that all participants will conduct themselves in ways that preserve the goals, image, dignity and beauty of the church, and assure the personal comfort and safety of other participants and the public. It is the responsibility of users, not the church, to supervise the use of alcoholic beverages in accordance with this policy.

A. Church-Sponsored Events

1. Alcohol may be served at church-sponsored events that are events sanctioned by recognized church committees. If the event is open to the general public or if alcohol will be sold through tickets, such as a meal that includes wine and for which a ticket must be purchased, or through a donations basket, a Nebraska Special Designated License is required, http://www.lcc.ne.gov/Forms_div.html.
2. Alcohol served is limited to beer and wine brought on the church premises by the sponsoring committee or group, except that the sponsoring committee or group may permit individuals to bring their own bottles of wine as part of the event.
3. No individual shall be permitted to bring alcohol on church premises except under direction from the sponsoring committee or group. An authorized representative of the church may direct any participant who brings alcohol on the premises (other than as allowed by this policy) to leave the church grounds.
4. The serving of alcohol may not be the focus of the event. Moreover, alcohol may be served only at an event where food is also served, and attractive beverage alternatives to beer and wine must be provided. Alcoholic beverages must be clearly labeled as such. Whenever alcohol is served, non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal attractiveness and accessibility.
5. If the alcohol is furnished by a sponsor, at least two volunteer servers must be designated to staff an alcohol table for the duration of the event. Alcohol shall not be served to or by minors. No one under 21 may handle any container that has alcohol in it, or has contained alcohol. Persons under 21 who are serving or cleaning up shall not handle glasses or other containers of alcohol left on tables
6. At least two weeks in advance of the event, the sponsoring committee or group must notify the church administrator in writing that alcohol will be served, and designate a supervising adult who will control its storage, distribution, and use.
7. Publicity about the event shall include notice that alcohol will be served.
8. Alcohol must not be stored on site before or after the event.

9. When a vendor (caterer) with a liquor license or in the business of serving alcohol is used for an event, vendor will provide a certificate of insurance proving liquor liability coverage and naming Second Unitarian Church of Omaha as an additional insured.

B. Private Events sponsored by church members

Alcohol is permitted at private events (such as weddings) only if the person(s) sponsoring and managing the private event are church members.

All restrictions outlined in A above also apply to these private events. Additional restrictions may be reflected in the facility rental agreement for the event.

C. Private Events sponsored by non-members

Alcohol is not permitted at events sponsored by non-members.
