



# PILGRIM UNITING CHURCH

*We are called by God to be a prophetic witness in the city of Adelaide so that new life and vitality will be generated in our city and its people. We celebrate in our unity and diversity, our shared beliefs and past experiences, and value worship, teaching, creativity and justice.*

CCP-09

## ALCOHOL POLICY

### 1. Introduction

The Uniting Church in Australia does not impose a uniform policy about the serving and consumption of alcoholic drinks on its properties. This policy decision is delegated to each congregation.

The Pilgrim Uniting Church Congregation recognizes that the misuse of alcohol can lead to much social dislocation in our community. It is also a major factor in death and injury on the road, and in the wider community. We understand that there may be children, adolescents and adults associated with the Church who have been affected physically and/or mentally by the abuse of alcohol, and people on medications which do not mix with alcohol.

We believe that the gospel teaches moderation and responsible use of the gifts that God provides. The Bible has many images of wine being associated with joy and blessing. Throughout the history of the church, wine has been used, including for Communion. Therefore, with regard to alcoholic drinks, the Congregation accepts that these products are part of life, but they must be used responsibly and in moderation.

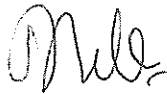
### 2. Purpose

This policy provides guidelines for decision making relating to alcohol on Pilgrim property, procedures for gaining approval for the consumption of alcohol on Pilgrim property and other issues related to the consumption of alcohol on Pilgrim property.

### 3. Policy

- 3.1 We will obey all applicable federal, state and local laws governing the use of alcohol, including, but not limited to, restrictions on serving minors.
- 3.2 Unless prohibited by this policy, a limited amount of alcoholic beverages may be served at church-sponsored events or gatherings providing that Church Council or Church Council Executive has given permission.
- 3.3 Approval will be considered on a case-by-case, event-by-event basis.
- 3.4 Events that are targeted at children and families with minors should be alcohol free.
- 3.5 Whenever alcohol is available for consumption, non-alcoholic alternatives must also be provided with equal prominence and accessibility. This includes when wine is used for Communion.

- 3.6 Apart from the use of wine at Communion, food must always be served when alcohol is available.
- 3.7 When alcohol is offered at an event held on Pilgrim property it must be consumed inside the buildings. Under no circumstances is alcohol to be taken outside.
- 3.8 Under no circumstances are glasses of alcohol to be sold to consumers attending an event at Pilgrim. However, with the permission of Church Council, and having obtained the appropriate Liquor Licence, sealed bottles of wine may be sold by church-sponsored groups as part of fund raising activities.
- 3.9 However, with the permission of Church Council, church-sponsored groups, having obtained the appropriate Liquor Licence, may sell sealed bottles of wine as part of fund raising activities.
- 3.10 Normally, business or open discussion of issues will be conducted before the serving of alcohol at a business meeting of any Pilgrim council, committee or task group.



**Authorisation**

Church Council Chair

Reviewed: 11 November 2020

Next review date: October 2022

## PROCEDURES RELATING TO ALCOHOL POLICY

### 1. Responsibilities

- 1.1 Church Council is ultimately responsible for giving permission for alcohol to be served at any event held at Pilgrim. However, responsibility for this has been delegated to Church Council Executive so that decisions can be made in a timely fashion between Council meetings.
- 1.2 Organisers of an event at which alcohol is to be served are responsible for gaining a Liquor Licence, if required, gaining permission for this to occur from Church Council or Church Council Executive, and for adhering to the following procedures once permission has been given.
- 1.3 The Office Administrator is responsible for checking that individuals or groups have the appropriate Liquor Licence, if required, where alcohol is to be served at events held at Pilgrim.

### 2. Procedures

- 2.1 If minors are present at a congregational social event and alcohol consumption has been approved, alcohol must be served at a separate location that is monitored at all times to prevent underage drinking.
- 2.2 Food must be provided at any event where alcohol is served.
- 2.3 Non-alcoholic alternatives must also be provided with equal prominence and accessibility.
- 2.4 Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages must be clearly labelled as such.
- 2.5 Service of alcohol must be monitored and those showing signs of intoxication must not be served.
- 2.6 At least one adult who does not consume or will not be consuming alcohol at this event should be appointed to oversee the service of alcohol.
- 2.7 After the event, alcohol must be either placed in a secure location or removed from the premises.



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