

## **ALCOHOL POLICY**

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## Introduction

This policy outlines the conditions under which alcohol may be served at events held on the premises of North Chevy Chase Christian Church. All such functions must be in compliance with the laws of the State of Maryland and Montgomery County. Approved users, or the caterers they employ, may be required to obtain a one-day permit from the Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control (MCDLC). A permit is required when a fee is charged for alcoholic beverages, such as at a cash bar or when a ticket to an event entitles the holder to an alcoholic beverage. (An event organizer that provides alcohol without charge would not be required to obtain a permit from the MCDLC.) Only **not-for-profit organizations are eligible to obtain a one-day permit from the MCDLC** for the sale of alcohol. For more information about when permits are required, how they are obtained, where liquor must be purchased, please see: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dlc/resources/files/licensure/one-day/dlc-class-c-one-day-rules-regulations.pdf>

In addition, the following rules apply:

- All outside groups wishing to serve alcohol must make reservations (**See Chapter 6**) and sign a waiver and release of liability (see **Appendix A**) at least two weeks before the event by contacting the Office Manager ([northchevychase58@gmail.com](mailto:northchevychase58@gmail.com)).
- NC4, at its sole discretion, may refuse any reservation for an event that includes the use or sale of alcohol.
- Only beer and wine with an alcohol by volume (ABV) content of no greater than 15 percent may be served.
- Any beverage which contains alcohol must be clearly labeled as such. This applies to any food where alcohol has not been volatilized.
- Alternate non-alcoholic beverages are to be offered to participants at any function with equal dignity and hospitality. Suitable alternative beverages might include non-alcoholic sparkling wine, punch, soda drinks, fruit juice, coffee or tea.
- The organization serving alcoholic beverages is to specify the beginning and ending time of the availability of such beverages in advance and such times may not be extended.
- All alcoholic beverages must be under the control of a responsible adult at all times. Bottles should not be left unattended; guest should not be able to “serve themselves” except when a bottle of wine is placed on a table and intended for multiple guests.

- If alcohol is being served to guests by servers, servers must have all licenses and training that may be required by Maryland and Montgomery County laws and regulations.
- The method of serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks should be equal as well as the type of drinking containers available.
- No minor is to be served alcoholic beverages and event organizers are responsible for checking identification to ensure that only adults 21 or older are served.
- The group or organization sponsoring the event at which alcoholic beverages are served must assume moral and legal responsibility for those who might become intoxicated, including the provision of transportation for anyone whose driving might be impaired.
- No alcohol shall be consumed or be present at children or youth functions or retreats.
- Alcoholic beverages may not be sold in their original container with the exception of a bottle of wine to be shared by multiple guests at a table.
- All groups, including church groups, are expected to observe the above guidelines.