



Consumption of Alcohol on Church Property Bridgewater Uniting Church - Policy

The Bridgewater Uniting Church 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 community.

We understand that in the church there are children, adolescents, people who have been affected physically and 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 in the Lord's Supper.

Therefore, with regard alcoholic drinks, the Congregation accepts that these products are part of life, but must be used responsibly and in moderation.

The Congregation policy is as follows:

All congregation members involved in event planning are requested to plan a majority of the events that occur on church property to be alcohol free. Especially events that are targeted at children and families with minors should be alcohol free.

Given that the congregation does not have a space large enough to gather in apart from the church building, some social events that allow BYO alcohol may be held in the church over the course of a year, but these should be approved by Church Council and kept to a minimum.

It is allowable for some congregation events in the Oak to include BYO alcohol without requiring approval from Church Council. Groups should give a priority to planning alcohol free events as appropriate.

No alcohol is to be brought on site by, or used by anyone outside of our congregation hiring our property unless permission is first sought from the church council.