

Hosanna Facility Use Guidelines

Any and all uses of Hosanna's premises and facilities must be consistent with, or not inconsistent with, the confession of faith, teachings and practices of this congregation and of the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ and LCMC Augustana District as found in Holy Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, and the constitutions, bylaws, teaching statements, continuing resolutions and other policy and practice statements of this congregation and of the LCMC and Augustana District LCMC.

Anyone who uses the church and its facilities for approved activities, whether member or non-member, will have the option of paying a fee to cover cleaning the church or being responsible for cleaning after themselves and leaving the facility in the same shape they found it. Anyone who agrees to clean after themselves will make a deposit to cover the cost of cleaning if they fail to leave the facility in a satisfactory condition.

Membership is not required to receive the sacraments. Baptism is part of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), and being baptized in Hosanna Lutheran Church makes one a member of the congregation. Adults are required to receive instruction before baptism, and the families and sponsors of infants and young children are briefed about the sacrament before their children are baptized. The baptism of a child is solely about the promise of God to that child and is separate from, and does not validate, the marital status of the parents. It does not confer blessing or approval on the nature of the parents' relationship or the nature of the child's conception (unmarried, adultery, rape, incest, artificial inception, same-sex parents, transgender parents, etc.). Hosanna practices "open communion", where any person (whether a member or non-member) is free to receive the sacrament if they are a baptized Christian who has received instruction, repents of their sins and believes Christ is present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sin.

Occasional services which fulfill the mission of Hosanna consistent with Scripture and the Confessions and with the congregation's constitution, bylaws and policies, including marriages and funerals, will be performed for members of Hosanna and for their immediate family with the approval of the Pastor(s) and, if necessary, the church council.

Occasions which celebrate these services and sacraments may be held at the church by its members in accordance with facility use policies and the approval of the Pastor(s) and church council. Examples include Baby showers, Baptism receptions, Bridal showers, Wedding receptions, Anniversary receptions, First communion receptions, Eagle Scout celebrations and Graduation receptions.

The congregation may at times host fundraising activities to support ministries or members of the congregation consistent with Scripture and the congregation's constitution, bylaws and policies with the approval of the Pastor(s) and church council. Examples include annual Youth fundraisers, Lefse making, and benefits to raise funds to help members or their families who need help with medical bills or other catastrophic financial burdens.

Individuals or organizations may request to use the church facilities for special events, such as Glacial Lakes Harmonizers for concerts and practices, Boy Scouts for ceremonies or activities, Watertown School District for ceremonies or activities (banquets, etc.), or other private or civic groups. Such requests would be considered on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the congregation's religious beliefs, mission, constitution, bylaws and policies with the approval of the Pastor(s) and church council.

For-profit activities will not be allowed the use of the church facilities for a business purpose.

Alcohol (except for wine at communion), tobacco, and illegal drugs will not be allowed on the premises at any church function.

