



EVERGREEN COMMUNITY CHURCH – New Hope

FACILITY USE POLICY

Version 1 – Issued 5/12/08

Philosophy

In keeping with our mission, “attract the world to Christ”, Evergreen Community Church (ECC) wants to utilize its facilities in a spirit that honors God, introduces others to Jesus Christ and encourages all individuals to grow in faith. Therefore, we will create a welcoming atmosphere for the use of our facilities for religious, cultural, educational and community activities.

Please refer to the Wedding Guidelines and Funeral Guidelines for information and policies on those events.

Priority of Users

The priority of use for our church facility is as follows:

1. ECC worship services
2. ECC ministries, programs, events
3. ECC sponsored programs or events
4. All other approved events

Facility reservations for ministry use may be made by ECC ministry leaders and pastors up to 12 months prior to the event. Reoccurring facility reservations running 6 months to 1 year may be scheduled up to 1 year prior.

Facility reservation requests made for non-ministry use or by outside groups may be made up to 90 days prior to an event. These reservation requests are subject to pastoral approval.

Groups not eligible to use the church facility

ECC facilities are not available for:

1. Organizations engaged in partisan political campaigns
2. Organizations engaged in commercial enterprise. This includes product sales, services or promotional activities which benefit a for-profit group or business including those owned by ECC members.
3. Any organization engaged in activities that conflict with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
4. Fundraisers that financially benefit ECC members, non-members or non-ECC groups are not permitted unless approved by ECC's Board of Trustees.

ECC reserves the right to deny access to any group at any time.

Facility Availability

ECC facilities are available for usage as follows:

1. Space availability will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis within the scheduling time frames and priorities as outlined above. ECC reserves the right to re-

locate a group to another room if necessary and/or cancel a reservation should a conflict with ministry use of the building arise.

2. Facilities are available for use daily, 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 P.M. except during Sunday service times.
3. Certain black out dates as determined by ECC will not be available so as to accommodate ECC special events.
4. If the church office is made aware of any scheduling conflicts they will be brought to the location pastors for resolution.
5. If the church office identifies a question of eligibility for an event or group wanting to use the facility, the matter will be brought to the ECC Operations Manager for discussion and resolution.
6. If an emergency situation or funeral arises, ECC reserves the right to switch the reserved group/event to a suitable, alternative location or to cancel the group/event. Every attempt will be made to notify parties in advance of any change.
7. The size of groups using the ECC facilities shall not exceed the standards that have been established by the Minnesota State Fire Marshall for the scheduled room of the event. All events will adhere to State and City laws, this policy and any additional agreements made with ECC.

Legal Requirements

The following are legal requirements for non-Evergreen sponsored usage of the building.

1. The individual who reserves space in the building and signs the contract is responsible for the conduct of its participants and is expected to maintain these policies and a level of behavior appropriate for the setting.
2. ECC is not legally responsible for the misconduct of participants at an event not sponsored by ECC. Any non-Evergreen sponsored group will be responsible for all liability arising from their event and those groups, which are recognized as legal entities, will provide a certificate of insurance and name ECC as an additional insured.
3. Any non-Evergreen sponsored group agrees to protect, indemnify and hold harmless ECC's officers and employees from any claims, liabilities, damages or rights of action, including attorney's fees, directly or indirectly growing out of the use of the premises covered by this agreement, including building, parking facilities, or grounds on or adjacent thereto.
4. ECC will not extend coverage for medical payments in the case of injury to a child, youth or adult in attendance. Obligation for any and all medical care shall be the responsibility of the individual and/or sponsor and costs of medical care shall be paid by that individual and/or sponsor.
5. If an item is lost while using the premises, please contact the church office. ECC is not responsible for any personal property left on the premises before, during or after the use

of our building. Any property left on the premises by those using the building shall, after a period of thirty (30) days from the last usage, be deemed abandoned and shall become the property of ECC.

6. Any non-Evergreen sponsored group damaging equipment or facilities will be responsible to pay for repairs or replacement of the same.

7. ECC is not responsible for stolen articles or any bodily injury taking place on church property.

Facility Reservation Procedures and Policies

FOR MINISTRY USE

All facility reservations for ECC ministry events, programs and meetings must be made using the online Facility Reservation system. These reservations must be made by either an approved ministry leader or a pastor. Ministry leaders and pastors will be assigned individual user id numbers and passwords to access the system. Assigned user id numbers and passwords are not to be transferred to any other individuals.

Approved ministry leaders and pastors will receive training on accessing and using the online Facility Reservation System. Ministry leaders and pastors are expected to use the system correctly and responsibly. If improper use is detected, user access may be denied.

If you are not an approved ministry leader and you need to make a facility reservation for an ECC ministry event, program or meeting, please contact Julie Sybrant at (H) 952-4143 or (Cell) 952-451-2560.

FOR NON-MINISTRY USE and OUTSIDE GROUP USE

Facility reservation requests for non-ministry and outside group events, programs and meeting should be done by submitting a Facility Reservation Request form available on the church website. These reservation requests will require location pastor approval and they will be held as “tentative” until a signed facility use contract and rental fees are received in the church office.

1. A Facility Reservation Request form must be on file for the event. Reoccurring events may have one standing form on file for a given set of dates, not exceeding one year.

2. Use of ECC equipment is subject to availability and approval and must be included in the Facility Use Contract.

3. ECC reserves the right to schedule other events throughout the building with consideration given to parking requirements.

4. Events wishing to use the **Kitchen** must follow the **Kitchen Use Policy** contained in this document.

5. Events should be scheduled to begin no earlier than 7:00 a.m. and conclude no later than 10:00 p.m. Event times should include the time needed to do clean-up and put the furniture back in the same layout as found, if necessary.

Building Usage Guidelines

1. Guns, alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs are not permitted anywhere on ECC premises.
2. Smoking is not permitted within the facility.
3. Groups must provide adequate supervision for their activity. In particular, children may not be left unsupervised while on the premises, inside or outside. Events wishing to offer childcare must be pre-approved through the church office. Events wishing to use the **Nursery** must follow the **Nursery Use Policy** contained in this document.
4. Use of the building is restricted to those areas as confirmed through the Facility Reservation process.
5. All signage to be posted in the building related to a scheduled activity must be approved in advance through the church office. Items may not be posted on windows, non-concrete surfaces or painted walls and no duct tape may be used. All signage must be removed at the end of the event or activity.
6. No signs, banners, flags, streamers, etc. are to be attached or hung from any wall, post or beam within or outside the property without prior approval of the church office.
7. All scenery or props must be freestanding. No nails, screws, or stage hooks may be used. All materials used must be non-combustible or have been treated so as to have been made fire-retardant.
8. No oil base paint, flammable liquids, fire producing chemicals or open flames in any form may be used on the property (including candles) without prior approval through the church office.
9. ECC will not provide storage for the property of outside groups using its building, or be responsible for equipment, supplies or other property of such groups or their members.
10. The reserving group is expected to leave the room(s) in the same lay-out and condition as found.
11. Movement of furniture or equipment between rooms is not allowed without prior approval through the church office.
12. Because of limited space, furniture, equipment or staff availability, a request from any group may be denied. All groups using the building must use only the equipment and furniture agreed to under the Facility Use Contract.
13. Equipment may be brought in for use in the building only after being approved in advance through the church office.
14. Equipment owned by ECC is not to be removed from the ECC premises without permission.

15. Animals should not be brought into any part of the building except for working/guide dogs. Any animals on building grounds must be on a leash and the owner is responsible for waste clean up.

16. Use of facilities grounds for outdoor activities must be approved by the church office, through the Facility Reservation process, prior to the event. Examples of activities: outdoor concerts, sports activities on the grounds or in the parking lot, etc.

17. Heat settings are controlled by ECC personnel and should not be changed. Air conditioning units may be used, but must be turned off when leaving the building.

18. Food is not allowed in the sanctuary at any time including public events, rehearsals, etc.

19. It is the responsibility of the user to assure that all members of the group are aware of these policies.

NURSERY USE POLICY – All Users Evergreen – New Hope

In order to provide a safe, fun experience for your group and to help ECC be a responsible steward of its resources, we ask that you follow this policy for the use of the Nursery.

1. There should be a minimum of **two** adults per room supervising activity and play. **Never** leave a child unattended in a room.

2. All toys, puzzles, blocks, etc. must be put away in their proper locations when you are finished using them. Please **do not** transfer toys from one room to another.

3. If any item (furniture, toys or building structure) is damaged during a group's use of these rooms, it should be reported immediately to the church office (952-895-1773).

4. Any toys that are mouthed or have been exposed to runny noses, saliva, etc. should be removed from play after use. Please clean them with a disinfectant solution.

5. Please clean the changing table pads after use with a disinfectant solution.

6. All toys, equipment and furniture are to be used in the manner for which they were intended. (For example, do not allow toddler children to climb in and sit in walkers or swings or to climb on shelves or tables.)

7. Be sure that children being cared for in the nursery are well. A child with a fever, cough or cold, etc. should not be left in the care of the Nursery.

8. Once all the toys are picked up and cleaned, please vacuum the floor (found in the nursery bathroom). Please **do not** leave food or crumbs on the floor.

9. Remove all used garbage bags. They may be placed in the dumpster in the back parking lot.

We respectfully ask that you adhere to this policy for the use of our Nursery. Failure to do so may affect your privilege to use these facilities. However, by following them, we hope that you and your group will enjoy your time here and that your experience will be a safe one. If you should have any questions about the use of our Nursery or this policy, please contact the church office at 952-895-1773.

KITCHEN USE POLICY For Non-Ministry Use and Outside Group Use Evergreen – New Hope

1. Purchase and use of all consumables (plastic cups, paper plates, napkins, knives and forks) and food are the responsibility of the group reserving the kitchen.
2. The church coffee-makers are not available for use as they require training. If you wish to serve coffee, please bring your own coffee maker.
3. No food may be sold or used for fundraising purposes without prior approval.
4. Wash and put away any church-owned dishes used. Wipe down counters and the leave the kitchen in better shape than you found it.
5. Used garbage bags should be placed in the outside dumpster on the west side of the building (in the back parking lot). Put a new liner in the garbage container.
6. Clean the floor (mop, broom and dustpan are located in the boiler room across the hall from the Fellowship Hall).
7. Please remove and take with you all left-over food, beverages and any other non-church items you purchased and brought to use in the kitchen.
8. If any church-owned kitchen item or equipment is damaged during your group's use, it should be reported immediately to the church office (952-895-1773).

We respectfully ask that you adhere to this policy for the use of our kitchen. Failure to do so may affect your privilege to use these facilities. If you should have any questions about the use of our kitchen or this policy, please contact the church office at 952-895-1773.

Facility Costs/Charges

The fee structure is to cover normal wear and tear of the building and to cover operating overhead. Fees do not cover damage; the cost to fix damage will be the responsibility of the reserving group.

The fee chart follows:

Rooms	Ministry Use	Member Fee for Non-Ministry Use (2 hours)	Non-Member and Outside Group Fee (2 hours)
Damage Deposit	No charge	\$200	\$200
Sanctuary	No charge	\$200	\$350
Fellowship Hall	No charge	\$75	\$135
Kitchen	No charge	\$25	\$40
Fireside Room	No charge	\$50	\$75
Room 11,12,13	No charge	\$25	\$40
Nursery Room 14	No charge	\$25	\$40
Nursery Room 16	No charge	\$25	\$40
Room 3-4	No charge	\$25	\$40
Library	No charge	\$25	\$40
Outdoors – parking lot	No charge	\$50	\$75
Equipment - Sanctuary Only			
Projector	No charge	\$25/hr tech support	\$25/hr tech support
Sound System	No charge	\$25/hr tech support	\$25/hr tech support

Minimum reservation is for 2 hours. The fee for additional hours beyond 2 hours will be charged at an hourly rate of one-half the fee for the 2 hour rate.

A damage deposit of \$200 is required and must be received prior to confirming reserved dates/rooms on the church calendar. If this is received in the form of a check, the check will be cashed and held until the conclusion of the event. If ECC determines that no damage has taken place, the full amount will be returned within 21 days following the event. If damage has occurred, these funds will be applied to the cost of fixing the damage. Any excess will be returned. If \$200 does not cover the cost of the damage, the additional costs will be charge back to the reserving party. Reoccurring events such

as monthly meetings will require a single deposit to be held until the end of the scheduled events, or unless any damage occurs

Reoccurring events held monthly or more frequently for 6 months or more, booked at one time and paid in full, will receive a 10% fee reduction. Payments may be made monthly, however failure to make payment prior to an event will cancel any remaining reservations.

Payment for the usage fee and signed Facility Contract must be received 5 days prior to the event or 5 days from the time the reservation is made whichever date is sooner.