Policy for the Use of Alcoholic Beverages in St. David's Church Building

(Adapted from Resolution Ao83 of the 1985 General Convention)

The Episcopal Church has never endorsed prohibiting the use of beverages containing alcohol among adult members. Scripture offers Jesus' example of the use and serving of wine in his first miracle at Cana and in the institution of the Holy Eucharist. If an adult member elects to use alcohol, however, moderate usage is expected. Church members should be educated regarding those conditions that might consequently compromise the health and safety of oneself or others.

The Church also supports and has a responsibility to those people who abstain from the use of alcoholic beverages for whatever reason.

Many parishes do not serve alcoholic beverages at social functions, but, for those which do, the following guidelines are given:

~ All applicable federal, state and local laws should be obeyed, including those governing the serving of alcoholic beverages to minors.

~ Alcoholic beverages and food containing alcohol must be clearly labeled as such.

~ Whenever alcohol is served, non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal attractiveness and accessibility. In addition, whenever alcohol is served it is expected that food will be served as well.

~ The service of alcoholic beverages at church events should not be publicized as an attraction of the event, and alcoholic beverages are not to be offered "for purchase."

~ The parish group or organization sponsoring the activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the rector in advance of the event. Such groups or organizations must also assume responsibility for those persons who might become intoxicated and must provide alternative transportation for anyone whose capacity to drive may thus be impaired.

~ The use of alcoholic beverages by groups using parish facilities, in which the sponsoring group leadership and a substantial number of those in attendance are not members of St. David's Church, excepting in the case of wedding receptions, is denied.

Recognizing the effect of alcohol as a mood-altering drug, it would be advisable to consider the nature of the function at which alcoholic beverages are proposed to be served.

Chemical usage other than alcohol is clearly controlled under federal, state and local laws and, as such, is forbidden at any function.

I understand and agree to abide by this policy

_____ _____ for _____

Signature date Organization