

**Resolution 94-4:**

**ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE LOCAL CHURCH**

**RESOLVED**, that the 1994 Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California, adopt the recommended guidelines for the use of alcoholic beverages adapted from a resolution passed by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in 1985, and made part of this resolution by attachment.

- 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 should always be offered with equal attractiveness and accessibility.
- The service of alcoholic beverages at church or church sponsored events should not be publicized as an attraction of the event.
- The group or organization sponsoring the activity at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the church for this plan. Such groups or organizations must also assume responsibility for those persons who might become intoxicated and must provide alternative transportation for anyone whose ability to drive may thus be impaired.
- 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.
- Consideration should be given to the development of local practices which are sensitive to the needs of recovering people wishing to receive the sacraments.
- Chemical usage other than alcohol is clearly controlled under federal, state and local laws and, as such, should be forbidden at any church or church sponsored function.

**Seconded/CARRIED**