
***First Church Unitarian Universalist
Leominster, MA***

First Church Vision Statement:

“We, the members of First Church Unitarian Universalist, dedicate ourselves to walk together in ways of truth, goodness and beauty, to be an anti-racist, democratic, nurturing community of love, to be a support to each other in times of need, and to stand in the larger community for those values of tolerance, justice, equality and love by which we attempt to live our lives.”

YOUTH CONCERTS: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Parish Committee of First Church Unitarian Universalist in Leominster, MA has approved the use of the church building for youth concerts. Guidelines and rules have been created to protect First Church Unitarian Universalist, the participants and the community from major disruptions. Although we recognize that there may be risks in allowing these gatherings, in the spirit of supporting and being tolerant and open to allowing the disenfranchised and marginalized to have a place to gather and flourish, and because we have a vision statement that supports this philosophical statement, we the members of the Parish Committee believe that the commitment to our vision statement outweighs the risks.

Adopted in full assent at the Parish Committee meeting held on October 17, 2006.

Rules and Guidelines

1. **The group organizers will be in touch with the Leominster Police and Fire Departments prior to any event.** Group organizers will follow their guidelines and will notify us in writing that they have been in communication and will state what the recommendations/ requirements are. Any cost associated with this will be the responsibility of the organizer. **The group organizers will notify us of the names of the person they spoke with at the Police and Fire Departments.**
2. The organizers will form a Security Committee made up of persons at least 21 years of age who are known to the groups and familiar with them. The organizers will provide First Church Unitarian Universalist with the names, addresses and phone numbers of those members. First Church Unitarian Universalist reserves the right to disallow any person so named or to request further information about them.

The Security Committee must work with the police officer on duty and report any observed or suspected illegal activity immediately to the police on duty and the organizer. If any illegal or harmful activity is engaged in or observed, the Security Committee does have the right to shut down the concert immediately. **In all cases the Security Committee and organizer must follow the command of the police/fire officer(s) on duty.**

3. **Names of groups performing will be given to the church in adequate time for First Church Unitarian Universalist to research those groups.** Any group whose music contains lyrics that promote violence, hate or overt oppression against anyone will not be allowed. These will be measured against the First Church Unitarian Universalist vision statement. (see above)
4. **No outside drinks or food are allowed in.** Any attendees leaving the building temporarily (smoking, etc.) must remain inside a clearly marked area if they intend to return to the event; if they leave this area they may be denied readmission.

YOUTH CONCERTS: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

5. **The number in attendance is limited to 125 persons in the building at all times.**
6. **No use of other rooms is allowed except for the downstairs hall and rest rooms.** If attendees are found in other rooms they may be asked to leave. The bands will be allowed use of one classroom to gather prior to being on stage.
7. **A deposit will be held for one week after the event** and sent back to the organizers. The deposit will be held if the building is not returned to its original state or if any violation occurs.
8. **The person signing the agreement for building use must be 18 years or older.**