

Photography and Media Consent Policy

By attending services and events at First United Church, you consent to the use of photography, video, and other audio/visual recordings taken during these gatherings. These materials may be used in our communications and promotional efforts, including on our website, social media channels, and printed materials.

We distinguish between *incidental appearances* (e.g., part of a general congregation shot) and *direct, identifiable appearances* (e.g., close-ups or focused images). Incidental appearances are covered by general consent, while identifiable appearances will be handled with care. If you are prominently featured, we will strive to honor your preferences if concerns are raised.

To respect privacy, we limit the visibility of attendees in publicly shared media. Staff members and volunteers who lead services or events are assumed to consent to the use of their likeness in church recordings and media.

Members and visitors are encouraged to be mindful when taking personal photos or videos, as others may not wish to be photographed or have their images shared. If you wish to opt out of appearing in recordings or media, please inform a staff member or event organizer before the service or event. Your preferences will be respected to the best of our ability.

Additional Statement on the Use of Photos and Videos of Minors

First United Church prioritizes the privacy and safety of children. Identifiable photos or videos of minors, including during worship services or youth ministry activities, will not be posted without verifiable parental or guardian consent. To protect children's privacy, group distance shots or non-identifiable images are preferred alternatives.

The church also distinguishes between *incidental appearances* (e.g., a minor appearing in a background group shot where they are not the focus) and *direct, identifiable appearances* (e.g., a close-up or focused image of a minor). While incidental appearances are considered less invasive, direct and identifiable appearances will not be used without explicit parental or guardian consent.

Bulletin statement: By attending First United Church, you consent to photography and recordings for church use. Inform staff or a church volunteer before the service if you wish to opt out.

This policy takes effect on January 1, 2025.