

# Guidelines for Bringing Pets to the Church

04/05/2023

To make the church a welcoming environment to all, the following guidelines are established to protect those who are afraid of animals or are allergic to them. These guidelines apply to only activities that take place on the church property, whether indoor or outdoor. We understand that on certain occasions, families need to bring their pets with them, so exceptions are made to accommodate such needs.

1. Pets, regardless of type, size, or breed, should not be allowed to intermingle with participants during indoor or outdoor church events.
2. If a pet must be brought to the church, it must stay in a separate area or room away from the areas used for church activities in progress.
3. The pet's owner must be responsible for it at all times.
  - a. Its barking should not disturb the activities in the church or neighbors in the nearby buildings.
  - b. Its owner must take extra precautions to clean up any mess it creates inside and outside the church building. This includes removing leftover pet food or drink.
  - c. Its owner must take extra precautions to make sure it's not damaging any church or personal property inside or outside the church.
4. When a pet is transiting through a common area of the church (e.g., hallway or lobby), it must be leashed or held by someone, and not allowed to roam freely.
5. Exceptions to items 1 and 2 can be made for emotional support animals and guide dogs.
6. Exceptions to these guidelines can be made by the event coordinator.