

First Lutheran Church
Permission for Use Policy
Of Video/Photo and Personal Identifiers

As society becomes increasingly dependent on technology as well as increasingly concerned with individual privacy, the First Lutheran Church Council, in June 2021, adopted a Parental Consent Form to give the church permission to use photos, video and personal identifiers of minors. The policy covers children's video/photo/image and personally identifiable information to be published on the congregation's newsletter, bulletin, Facebook page, website, or other social media outlets and publications.

Simply stated, legally, FLC cannot show any "recognizable" video/photo/image of a child without parental/guardian permission. We can post a video/photo/image of the back of a head or if their face is blurred. But, because we live-stream the services via Facebook, blurring the face is not possible.

As parents, you are aware there are potential dangers associated with the posting of personally identifiable information on a web site since global access to the Internet does not allow us to control who may access such information. These dangers have always existed; however, we as a congregation do want to celebrate your children and their work. Personally identifiable information includes student names, video, photo or image, residential addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers.

The law requires that FLC ask for parent's/guardian's permission to use information about your child(ren). Pursuant to law, we will not release any personally identifiable information without prior written consent from you as parent or guardian.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION: Foster Children:

Children in foster care require special consideration. Foster children are wards of the state, so foster parents cannot legally sign documents on their behalf. Ministries need a signed photo use agreement from a foster child's caseworker. When there is doubt, FLC will give a higher level of privacy to foster children. Often, they have been removed from their birthparents' homes due to abuse or neglect. Broadcasting a child's whereabouts could put the child at risk of being placed in an unsafe situation.

We respect the rights of parents and families and we appreciate your understanding as we navigate through this policy. Parental permission forms are available at the First Lutheran Church office. Please call 218-478-3895 to receive the policy. Policies will be kept on file indefinitely.

If you, as the parent or guardian, wish to rescind this agreement, you may do so at any time in writing by sending a letter to First Lutheran Church, PO Box 72, Stephen, MN 56757 and such rescission will take effect upon receipt.

For more information/questions, please contact Connie Troska at ctroska@wiktel.com or 218-991-2576

Thank you,
First Lutheran Church Council