

Open Door Church Photography & Videography Policy

Purpose

At Open Door Church, we value the opportunity to capture and share moments of worship, community, and ministry. Photography and videography allow us to celebrate what God is doing in and through our church, communicate with our congregation, and invite others into the life of our church. We are committed to using all media in a way that honors Christ and respects every individual.

General Notice to the Congregation

Photography and video recording may take place during worship services, events, and ministry gatherings at Open Door Church. By attending, you acknowledge and agree that your image, likeness, or voice may be captured and used by the church for purposes including print materials, website content, social media, and other forms of communication. We strive to represent our church family with dignity, care, and integrity in all media.

Photo & Video Removal Requests

We are committed to honoring the preferences of individuals and families. If you or your child appear in a photo or video and would prefer that it not be used, we will gladly remove it promptly upon request. To request removal, please contact the church office and provide any helpful details so we can locate the content quickly. Our team will respond with care and timeliness to ensure your request is handled appropriately.

Policy for Minors (Next Gen Ministries)

This policy applies to all Next Gen ministries, including OD Kids, United, Trek, Awana, and LEAN. Parents and guardians will be notified in advance when photography or videography will take place and will also be informed again on the day of the event or gathering. Families will be given the opportunity to complete an opt-out form if they do not wish for their child to be photographed.

To support this, our check-in process includes a clear identification system that allows ministry leaders and photographers to easily recognize children who should not be included in photos. We are committed to honoring these preferences at all times. Additionally, no identifying personal information about minors will be published alongside images, ensuring their safety and privacy are protected.

Photographer Guidelines & Expectations

Photographers serving at Open Door Church are expected to carry themselves with professionalism, discretion, and awareness of the worship environment. During services, photographers should remain in unobtrusive areas such as the back or sides of the room and should avoid the altar area unless specifically directed. Movement should be minimal and quiet to prevent distraction, and care should be taken not to interrupt moments of worship, prayer, or response.

Photography may also take place in gathering areas such as the lobby, fireside room, and outdoor spaces. In these environments, photographers should remain respectful of conversations and personal space, ensuring their presence does not disrupt the experience of others.

Photographers are encouraged to dress in a way that allows them to blend into the environment, with all-black attire preferred. They may also be asked to wear visible identification while serving so attendees can easily recognize them. At all times, photographers should aim to capture authentic moments while maintaining a posture of humility and respect.

Content Standards & Usage

All media captured at Open Door Church should reflect the mission, values, and heart of our church. Images and videos should be uplifting, appropriate, and handled with care. We seek to avoid capturing or using content that could portray individuals in sensitive or vulnerable moments without proper consideration. The church reserves the right to review, edit, and determine how all media is used and distributed.

Safety & Sensitivity Considerations

We are committed to creating a safe and respectful environment for everyone. Photographers and staff should be mindful when capturing images, especially in moments that are personal or emotional. If an individual appears uncomfortable, their space and privacy should be respected. In all situations, discretion should be prioritized over documentation.

Questions & Contact

If you have any questions about this policy or would like to request the removal of a photo or video, please contact the Open Door Church office. We are grateful for your partnership in helping us maintain a respectful, safe, and honoring environment for all who gather with us.