Skyland Community Church Trespassing Policy

Purpose

Skyland Community Church is located in a remote mountain community. As such, we have people who seek to take advantage of our facilities and the services we offer. These needs often occur at various times in addition to when the church is open for worship services. This policy sets forth how the church defines and will handle trespassing and by extension, loitering issues, should they arise. Trespassing is defined as "the act of knowingly entering or remaining on another person's property without permission or a valid reason to be on the property."

Policy

We, the congregation of Skyland Community Church, are an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ.

With God's grace, we seek to be a congregation inclusive of all persons without regard to race, sex, age, mental or physical ability, marital status or sexual orientation. We welcome all to join with us to share in our community life, worship and sacraments including ordained leadership and ministry. We seek to honor the individual gifts all persons bring to us.

It is the policy of Skyland Community Church to maintain a community open to all who seek it.

All are welcome at Skyland's worship services and other programs.

At times other than during worship and church programs, all seeking Skyland's services and/or facilities are welcome to our campus for up to two hours:

- To use our community food pantry,
- To use the open facilities of the church including WIFI, electricity (using available outside outlets for charging electronics), and the bathroom.

Loitering longer than two hours is trespassing.

Occasional permission for overnight stay in a car may be granted by the minister. At such times, a letter of permission will be given to the individual.

However,

when an individual's actions are deemed to be harmful and/or disruptive to Skyland Community Church and/or its individual members or pantry workers; where the individual's actions are harmful, disruptive, and/or contrary to Skyland's policies, rules or regulations; or where the individual's actions are contrary to law, a trespass warning may be given to that individual to maintain an environment free of those disruptive, harmful, and/or unlawful influences.

Loitering on the Skyland campus longer than two hours without permission is trespassing and not allowed. Use of the bathroom longer than twenty minutes is not allowed. Soliciting is not permitted.

” No Trespassing” is posted. The sign is next to the parking lot entrance. The Santa Cruz County Sheriff has been notified of our policy regarding trespassing by the attached letter.

Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Trespass Arrest Authorization Letter

To: Santa Cruz County Sheriff-Coroner
5200 Soquel Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

From: _Weiner, Rev. Melanie for Skyland Community Church November 19, 1966 _____
(Print last name, first name and middle initial) (Date of birth)
Address (Street) 25100 Skyland Road, APN_09805113_____
City/State/Zip: Los Gatos, CA, 95033
_____ Home Phone
_____ Cellular Phone _____
Email address:Revmelanieweiner@skylandchurch.com
Business Phone _408-353-1310 Other _____
Contact information- I understand the Sheriff's Office may contact myself or my agent(s) any day of the week, day or night. The following person should be contacted for law enforcement purposes in this order:
1) Name__Melanie Weiner__ Phone_____
2) Name__Jeremy Cole___ Phone_____
3) Name_Anne Evans_____ Phone: 408-691-6814
I am (check one) / / Owner / X /Owner's Agent / / Person in Lawful Possession of the Property, located at (Please PRINT - Legal owners name, parcel number, full address, including apartment number. If a business, include the name. Please attach proof of authority, assessor file, lease or rental agreement.
Skyland Community Church 25100 Skyland Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033
Parcel number: 09805113
The property is a Other : Church_____
I, or my agent, may be contacted as needed. (Print name, address and phone number)
_____
_____

I authorize the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office to arrest for trespassing per Penal Code Section 602, 602.1, 602.5, 647(e) and associated subsection's, any person(s) found on the property without my consent or without lawful purpose or anyone who lodges in any building, structure, vehicle, or place on the property without my permission. I understand that the Sheriff's Office may contact me prior to arresting a subject to confirm that the subject is there without my permission and that if the Sheriff's Office cannot reach me or my agent, the Sheriff's Office may choose to not arrest the subject. I certify that the property listed above is (check applicable sections):
_____ Closed to the public/residential place - (602.5(a) PC)
_____ Closed to the public, and posted NO TRESPASSING – (602(o) PC)
_____ Open to the public between the hours of _____ and _____ and is posted NO TRESPASSING outside of these hours. I authorize the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office act as my agent and ask unauthorized persons to leave the described property during off business hours. If they refuse to leave, I authorize the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office to act as my agent and arrest said subject(s) –
___X_____ Open to the public, however, I authorize the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office to ask person(s) who are obstructing business or intimidating business operators and customers to leave the property. If they refuse to do so, I authorize the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office to arrest such person(s) – (602.1(a) or 602.1(b) PC).
408-761-4611
____X_____ Private Property or Open to the public, during certain hours, however, I authorize the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office to arrest anyone who lodges in any building, structure, vehicle or

place on the property without my permission - (647(e) PC).
I, or my agent, will cooperate in the prosecution of persons arrested for these offenses. For purposes of application of Penal Code 602(o), I understand that this letter is valid for a maximum period of six months
and it is my responsibility to renew the letter at that time if the need still exists.

_____
Signature Date

_____ _____

Skyland Community Church Trespassing Procedures

At times other than during worship and church programs, all seeking Skyland's services and/or facilities are welcome to our campus for up to two hours:

However,

- Loitering longer than two hours is trespassing.
- Actions while on the Skyland campus that are deemed harmful and/or disruptive to Skyland Community Church and/or its individual members or pantry workers constitute trespassing.
- Use of the bathroom for longer than twenty minutes is not allowed.

1. If a member of the congregation or pantry worker observes an individual trespassing but feels comfortable, and the individual(s) aren't exhibiting aggressive behavior, the individual should initially be allowed to remain on the Skyland campus. The minister shall be notified by phone, or if necessary, by leaving a message at 408-353-1310.

2. If an individual(s) reappears on the property a second time and is observed trespassing, the minister shall be contacted. If possible, the minister will talk with the individual(s) to ascertain if they may have needs Skyland Community Church can assist with. If the minister is unavailable, a designated church member shall be contacted.

3. If an individual(s) returns to the property after being asked to leave, or anytime the member or pantry worker feels their safety would be in jeopardy, a designated church member shall be contacted. They will call the Sheriff and ask that the individual(s) be removed from the property.

4. The Trespass Arrest Authorization Letter shall be filed every six months.

Members Designated for Trespassing Issues

The church members designated for trespassing issues during 2022/2023 are:

1. Jeremy Cole – Phone 408-761-4611
2. Anne Evans – Phone 408-691-6814