

Heights Church Photography Policy

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to define the use of photographs and other recorded media at Heights Church. Through various forms of media, Heights may present images or other recordings of worship and church life to the rest of the world, primarily on our website, but also in brochures, informational displays, special video projects, and so on. However, we are also very aware of the safety and sensitivities of those involved, and thereby provide the following statement of policy which will govern photography and videography at Heights.

General group or crowd photographs:

Heights reserves the right to take photographs or video recordings at worship services or any other church-related activities (events) and to use any of these photos or recordings for advertisement or promotional purposes in media such as, but not limited to, brochures and flyers, the church website, and online photo galleries, without seeking or requiring the consent of each person represented.

- In addition to any event or gathering taking place on church property, church-related activities also include Church sponsored gatherings at other locations such as parks, sporting events, mission trips, etc.
- Any individual who objects to potentially being photographed as part of a Heights activity should notify a Pastor, event coordinator, or the photographer immediately upon arrival.
- Any individual who sees himself/herself or a family member in a group photo online and would like it removed may follow the photo removal procedure given below.

Adult individual or small group photographs:

When adult individuals or a small group of individuals are photographed, whether posed or candid, each person will be asked for either written or verbal consent before any use of the photographs is made.

- Verbal consent will be deemed sufficient to use an adult individual or small group photo that contains no identifying information, aside from likeness. Written consent will be obtained for any photos that contain any identifying information.

Photographing minors:

When children under the age of 18 are photographed (except as a part of a general group or crowd photo as outlined above), the consent of at least one parent will be obtained before their photo will be used in any way. In addition, the following guidelines will be enforced:



- Under no circumstances will any identifying information (first or last name, family members, email addresses, school names, etc.) of anyone under 18 years of age be included in or associated with any photographs or videos displayed, posted, or published in any way.
- All registration forms for events, activities or programs, such as youth gatherings, Going Vertical, etc., will contain a reference to this policy, a permission request to allow the participant to be photographed in accordance with the policy.
- Any event-related photos including minors that are used in any church media must have already occurred. For example, a photo of a prior-year camping trip could be posted or published, while a photo of youth who are signed up for a future camping trip could not.
- Opting-out: Parents/guardians who do not wish their child's photo or video to be potentially posted online or otherwise displayed, regardless of the context, should send a written note or email to the church office, and Heights will make every effort to exclude the indicated minor from any individual or group photography. Please note that children may still be included in general group or crowd photos without identifying information; however, you may always request that any photo be removed from display.

Requesting removal of a photograph or video:

Any individual who appears in a photo/video (or whose minor children appear in a photo/video) that has been posted online may request that it be removed for any reason, even if prior permission had been granted, by sending a written note or email to the church office. Please indicate the person or persons involved and the photo or video in question, and it will be promptly removed from the website or other display where it is found.

Change notice:

Heights may change the content of this policy without notice, and it is recommended to review this and other church policies periodically.

