

**Policy for Worshipping Groups  
Renting/Using Church Facilities  
In  
Presbytery of Riverside**

**Book of Order References**

*G-8.0502 A particular church shall not lease its real property used for purposes of worship, or lease for more than five years any of its other real property, without the written permission of the presbytery transmitted through the session of the particular church.  
(Chapter VIII. The Church and Its Property)*

*G-10.0102(o) to provide for the management of the property of the church, including determination of the appropriate use of church buildings and facilities, and to obtain property and liability insurance coverage to protect facilities, programs and officers, including members of the session, staff, board of trustees, and deacons.  
(Chapter X. The Session)*

**\*Presbytery's Standing Rules**

A Fellowship/Worshipping Group is:

1. A new expression of ministry which may be a racial or ethnic minority
2. A group usually, but not always, worshipping in a Session's facility
3. A group that in worship and practice reflects the Reformed Tradition
4. A group under the oversight/sponsorship of a session or presbytery, having an organizational structure that includes its own steering committee
5. Seen by the local session/congregation as part of its mission outreach
6. Financially self-supporting; financial arrangements between the group and the sponsoring church may vary according to the satisfaction of both parties. Presbytery has no obligation to provide financial support.

**Guidance – any agreement between the Church and a Worshipping Group shall include:**

1. Liability Insurance of at least \$1,000,000
2. A vision statement for the organization/church
3. A current year budget plus financial statements for the previous year
4. A set of goals for the current year
5. A definable organizational structure.

Copies of supporting documents are to be submitted to Congregational Nurture Team

\*These policies do not apply in situations of leasing or renting only.

