

Political Event Policy at Atlanta Christian Church

Atlanta Christian Church does not endorse, oppose, or contribute to any political candidates or parties. To ensure unity within the Atlanta community, fairness, and compliance with IRS regulations, our church will only host nonpartisan events where all legally qualified candidates for an office are given the opportunity to participate. The burden of organizing a “nonpartisan event” lies on the person or organization making the request, not the church. Events that have an appearance of partisan politics and do not equally represent all parties involved will not be approved.

1. Nonpartisan Candidate Forums & Events

The church may host candidate forums or town hall-style discussions, provided that:

- All legally qualified candidates for the same office are invited to participate.
- The event is moderated in a neutral and fair manner.
- The format includes equal time for each candidate to present their views.
- The event remains issue-focused, avoiding campaign rhetoric or endorsements.

2. No Single-Candidate Events

- Atlanta Christian Church will not host or sponsor an event for a single candidate unless it is part of a broader, neutral, and nonpartisan series where all candidates are given equal opportunities. Requests must be made in this manner.
- If a candidate wishes to visit the church during an election season, it must be:
 - As part of a multi-candidate event.
 - In a personal capacity (e.g., attending worship services without campaigning).

3. No Campaigning, Fundraising, or Endorsements

- The church will not permit:
 - Campaign speeches, endorsements, or distribution of campaign materials inside church property.
 - Campaign fundraising or donations to candidates/political parties.
 - Use of church resources (email lists, social media, facilities, or funds) for political campaigns.

4. Voter Education & Civic Engagement

- The church may encourage civic participation through:
 - Nonpartisan voter registration drives open to all.
 - Educational discussions on public policy issues from a biblical perspective, without candidate endorsements.
 - Prayer for leaders and government officials, regardless of party affiliation.
 - Town hall type meetings where all candidates receive an invitation to participate.
 - Polling place

Enforcement & Compliance

- Church leadership is responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy.
- No political signage is permitted on church property.
- Any political event, hosted at the church, with the exception of polling, must receive prior approval from ACC leadership.
- Any violations, questions, or concerns should be reported to a church pastoral staff member.
- All nonpartisan political events must have a point person who is familiar with and ensures adherence to the church's building use policy.