



Policy Location: GSWM - 5

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Title: Religious Service Exemption & Copyright Law

Revised: (date)

Policy Owner: Worship & Music Team

Associated Documents: Associated Documents: GSWM – 1 Worship & Music Shared Ministry Team Policy; UUA's Copyright Primer: <https://www.uua.org/publications/copyright-primer-for-congregations>

Last Reviewed:

Policy

Religious Exemption Copyright law states that the following is legal without permission, regardless of copyright: Performance of a nondramatic literary or musical work or of a dramatico-musical work of a religious nature, or display of a work, in the course of services at a place of worship or other religious assembly.

Policy

Any use of copyrighted works in connection with congregational activities must be conducted in accordance with applicable law. Works that may be subject to copyright include, for example, music, recorded performances, written works, videos and movies.

If copyrighted material is to be used during any congregation-sponsored event or activity or in any publication or communication, it is the responsibility of the event organizer(s) to secure any necessary rights to use the material and to provide appropriate documentation of these rights to the Congregational Administrator.

Copyrighted readings and live or recorded music may be used in our Sanctuary for religious services without such permission. Copyrighted video may not be used without permission.

Copyrighted material may not be included in any video or audio recording of the service, nor may we distribute copies of copyrighted sheet music, readings, etc. without permission from the copyright holder.

Permission to show movies or other video must be obtained by the committee or group sponsoring the showing, and documentation must be provided to the Operations Director. No movie titles will be listed on the official church calendar, website, Facebook page, or other communications until the necessary rights have been obtained.