

St. John's United Methodist Church Wedding Policy

Weddings are joyful occasions which mark one of the most significant events in an individual's life. A "church wedding" is more than a ceremony or social event – it is a worship experience of sacramental nature that gives witness to the faith of the couple and the life of the Church. "The estate of Holy Matrimony is not to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently in the fear of God."

The Pastor's Role

- The Pastor is to meet with the couple at a mutually agreeable time.
- The Pastor retains the right to agree or refuse to perform the ceremony after this meeting.

Rehearsal

- To be scheduled at the discretion of the Pastor
- All participants, including photographers and videographers, need to be present. This includes the organist, soloist(s), bride, groom, all attendants, ushers, and parents.

Music

- The Pastor can supply the names and contact information of organists who are familiar with the church organ.
- It is the responsibility of the couple to make arrangements with the organist of their choice.
- Soloists are to be arranged by the couple.
- It is expected that all musical selections will reflect the Sacramental nature of the wedding ceremony.

Flowers (including aisle runner and candelabra if used)

- Arrangements are to be made by the couple.
- Florist must call the church to make arrangements for delivery and set-up.
- If desired, altar flowers can be donated for use in the Sunday worship service with an appropriate statement to be included in the church bulletin.

Photography and Videography

- No flash pictures are allowed during the ceremony.
- Photographer and videographer must be present at the rehearsal.
- Ushers should be instructed to tell guests who come with cameras of this policy.

Rice, Confetti, and Bird Seed

- The use of rice, confetti and bird seed is strictly prohibited on church property.
- We suggest the use of bubbles.

Wedding Bulletins (optional)

- Bulletin covers are to be provided by the couple.
- Arrangements must be made in collaboration with the Pastor at least two weeks prior to the ceremony.

Cleaning

- The employment of the church's cleaning service is mandatory.

Reception (if using Fellowship Hall)

- All catering arrangements are the responsibility of the couple.
- Unless the catering is being done by a member of the church, the stove and dishwasher are not to be used.
- The rental fee is separate from the catering fee.

Fee Schedule

Sanctuary (Weddings)

Member or Immediate Family	Donation
Non-member	\$250
Cleaning Service	\$100
Organist	\$150
Pastor	\$250

Fellowship Hall (Weddings)

Member	Donation
Non-member	\$200
Cleaning Service	\$150

ALL FEES MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO THE REHEARSAL.

THE MARRIAGE LICENSE MUST BE GIVEN TO THE PASTOR NO LATER THAN THE REHEARSAL.