

### Family or Unity Candle

Some wedding services include a ceremony of candle lighting following the pronouncement of the marriage. If you choose to include this in your ceremony, it is the couple's responsibility to provide the Unity Candle, an appropriate holder, and two tapers.

### Marriage license

While a marriage license is good for thirty days from issuance, they must be applied for three business days in advance of your wedding date. You should apply for the license in the municipality clerk's office in the town in which the bride resides. You must bring the license with you to the rehearsal.

Please keep in mind that there is a waiting period of three (3) business days from the time of application to the issuance of a marriage license and that a license is valid for a period of thirty (30) days.

### Financial Obligations

Many ask what are the proper financial fees for those who assist in weddings. Because of their regular tithing, church members are not asked to pay for the use of the sanctuary. The following is a list of the fees associated with Wesley United Methodist Church:

1. A fee of \$ 150 to help defray the cost of the sanctuary.
2. A fee of \$ 75 for the Sexton provides for basic services. Additional fees will apply depending on the number of rooms needed. Our facilities are cleaned before and after the wedding.
3. A fee of \$125 for the Organist's Services. (Includes Rehearsal)
4. A fee of \$ 200 for the pastor. Church members are not asked to provide a fee for the pastor., they may however give a gift to the pastor at their discretion.
5. A fee of \$ for the Wedding Coordinator.

A non refundable deposit in the amount of \$100 is required before your date will be secured on the church's calendar. All fees are required to be paid by the rehearsal date. We recommend that these gifts are in cash and that they be in separately marked envelopes.

### Things To Be Brought To The Rehearsal

- Marriage License
- Family or Unity Candles
- Guest Book
- Financial Obligations

Sanctuary Costs \$ 150\*

Sexton \$ 75

Organist \$ 125

Pastor \$ 200\*

Wedding Coordinator \$

Bulletins \$

\* Fees waived for members.

Wedding date:

Time:

Place:

Rehearsal Date:

Time

## Your Wedding At Wesley United Methodist Church



Rev. Doug Rea, Pastor  
609-432-5073  
Email [mlumc1@verizon.net](mailto:mlumc1@verizon.net)

### **To the Bride & Groom**

Wesley United Methodist Church, Edison is happy to make our staff and facilities available to you at this joyous time in your life. We hope that this time may be a blessing to you and your families as you prepare yourselves for your big day. This booklet has been prepared for you so that you may get acquainted with our church's customs, policies and associated fees.

The decision to marry and become a partner with God in the establishment of a Christian home is one of the most important tasks that couples have the responsibility to form. Our church wishes to help make your wedding service a joyful and meaningful event as you begin your life together as husband and wife. To assist you in planning your wedding, the church suggests you consider the following:

#### **Wedding Date**

Before you make arrangements with the caterers, banquet hall, or have invitations printed, please call the Pastor 609-432-5073 to schedule a conference and to confirm a wedding date.

#### **Conferences with the Pastor**

Before the wedding date, at least three conferences with the Pastor are required. Topic for discussion will vary but will include the significance of Christian marriage and specific arrangements of your wedding service.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

We offer the following answer to some frequently asked questions:

Weddings may be held in the sanctuary of our Church or in a home, outdoors such as a park, etc. or other location at the discretion of the Pastor.

It is expected that the pastor officiate at all weddings. If a family wishes to have other clergy assist in the ceremony or perform the ceremony it will be at the discretion of the Pastor to offer an invitation of participation. In some situations it may be necessary for another pastor to officiate the wedding ceremony.

Under no circumstances are alcoholic beverages

permitted on Church property. If the wedding party shows evidence of the influence of alcohol, the Pastor will decline the service. We trust that you will respect our policy concerning this matter.

The correct name and address of the Church is:

Wesley United Methodist Church  
5053 Woodbridge Ave.  
Edison, NJ 08837

#### **Music**

Since your wedding is a worship service, the music should be reflective of your faith and that of the church. Secular music may be inappropriate (but not necessarily so) therefore consult with the Organist and Pastor for final approval.

If organ music is desired, the couple should contact the Music Director, Ms. Mary Frances Ryan 909-907-2591 and secure her services. If she is unavailable, contact the Pastor for further assistance. Please note that this is the couples responsibility to contact Ms. Ryan and secure her services. We suggest you do so shortly after securing the wedding date with the Pastor.

If the family wishes to have a friend play the organ you need to get approval from the Church Board of Trustees. If a soloist will participate in the service, the family must make its own arrangements, but the Pastor and Organist must approve the music.

#### **Bulletins**

Printed bulletins are available if so desired. They will include the order of service and list the Bride and Groom's parties along with other persons participating in the service.

#### **Communion**

It is our practice that the Celebration of Holy Communion must be available to everyone who desires to receive; it is never served just to the wedding couple. Therefore if Holy Communion is part of your ceremony, everyone present will be invited to share in the sacrament.

#### **Pictures**

The use of flash photography is allowed, however we ask that it be used discreetly so as not to interfere with your service which is Christian worship. With that said, all photographers must consult with the pastor before the wedding service for specific instructions.

#### **Video Recording**

Video recording is allowed by the permission of the Pastor only. Any persons providing this service must see the pastor prior to the service.

#### **Decorations**

The regular arraignment of our sanctuary is required for all weddings. Any decorations must be in keeping with the sanctuary setting. No tacks or nails or hooks of any kind are allowed

#### **Rice, Confetti, Birdseed**

Because of environmental concerns and the concern for wild life we do not permit the use of rice or confetti. The use of birdseed is also prohibited. Another alternative is the use of bubbles. Actually this practice is growing in popularity and we suggest that you give serious consideration to its practice.

#### **Balloons**

Some weddings release helium filled balloons instead of throwing birdseed. However because of environmental concerns, we prohibit this practice.

#### **Flowers**

It is the responsibility of the family to supply whatever floral arrangements will be used in the sanctuary. The pastor needs to know a week in advance the specific date and time of delivery.

#### **Aisle Runner**

If an aisle runner is desired, it may be ordered from the florist. Because runners are not always safe, we strongly advise against their use.