

Decorations

Use live flowers or plants as arrangements in the Sanctuary altar urn or on the Chapel or Wesley Center altars. Notify the flower chairperson, Peggy Thomas (919-774-8462) if you would like to leave flowers for the Sunday services after your wedding (you may do this at the time you schedule the wedding with the office.) You may supplement the regular altar candles with a unity candle, but no additional ones.

Use ribbon or other noninvasive, non-scarring fasteners (rather than tacks, pins, nails or glue) to attach decorations.

A Final Note

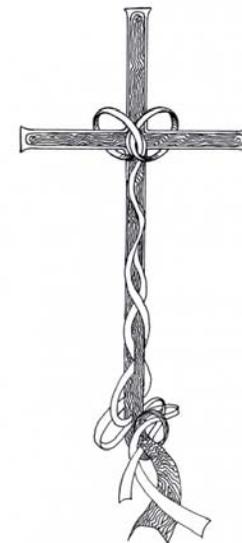
We sincerely hope that these guidelines will help assure that your wedding will be satisfactory in every way and that it will be an occasion memorable for everyone involved. We wish you grace, peace, love and joy.

--The JUMC Worship Team
04/13



Jonesboro United Methodist Church

Wedding Guidelines



407 Main Street
Sanford NC 27332
919.775.7023

Welcome

The pastor and members of Jonesboro United Methodist Church are grateful for the opportunity to assist you in this important and joyous event in your life. The guidelines are intended to provide essential, easy-to-understand information for taking care of all the details involved in planning and accomplishing your wedding, not only to your own satisfaction, but also to the satisfaction of all of us at JUMC who care about you.

Christian marriage at JUMC is proclaimed as a sacred covenant reflecting Christ's covenant with the church. Everything about the worship service witnesses to the fact that the wedding ceremony is a sacred moment and your marriage is to be a Christian one. Whether you choose to use the Sanctuary, the Chapel or the Wesley Center, the rite invokes the blessings of God on your marriage.



Photography and Recording



Because your JUMC wedding is a uniquely designed service involving everyone in worship, photography is allowed under these conditions: your official photographer in the Sanctuary balcony stands in a stationary position against a side wall, taking "still" shots with no flash or supplemental lighting. The photographer does not obstruct or distract guests either by movement or sound. The videographer operates similarly so that the service can proceed without disturbance. In the Chapel or Wesley Center, where there is no balcony, the same general guidelines for unobtrusiveness apply in order to guarantee that guests may worship without being obstructed or distracted.

The wedding bulletin or program should include instructions that all electronic devices, including phone cameras, must be turned off during the ceremony. This courtesy frees everyone to participate fully in worship.

Formal pictures are taken either before or after the ceremony, and the pastor will pose with the bridal party and family at the chosen time. If you decide to do it beforehand, please clear the area (whether Sanctuary, Chapel or Wesley Center) one hour prior to the service to assure that the space will be ready when guests arrive.

Please include all of these matters in your discussions with the pastor, the wedding director, and the photographer as you plan your wedding. You will thus assure both that the joy of your wedding is shared by everyone present and also that the sacred moment will be preserved well for you and your loved ones.



Wedding Directors

Church member wedding directors, Jinger Gibson (919-774-9581) and Peggy Thomas (919-774-8462), are available to assist you in planning and guiding your wedding. Suggested fee is \$100. If you have someone else in mind, please contact one of these directors to take advantage of their knowledge of JUMC.

The director for a Sanctuary, Chapel or Wesley Center wedding is responsible for seeing that

- 1) the church is opened and closed for both the rehearsal and the wedding.
- 2) the rehearsal decorum (dress, language, behavior) is appropriate to the sacred space--that is, proper for the ceremony itself.
- 3) the kneeling bench, if it is to be used, is in place, and chairs removed from the chancel.
- 4) the candles are ready to burn and the person designated to serve as acolyte is prepared.
- 5) the numbers are removed from the hymn boards and then replaced.
- 6) the chancel or Wesley Center space is cleared of superfluous items.
- 7) the sound technician is on the job.
- 8) the dressing rooms are ready for use if the bridal parties want to use them.
- 9) the agreed-upon fees for clergy or musicians are disbursed prior to the ceremony.
- 10) the photographer and videographer take pictures following the guidelines outlined in the section devoted to Photography and Recording.
- 11) family members put things back in place and in order, leaving all areas clean as found.

Clergy

The pastor of JUMC, as is the case with any United Methodist appointed pastor, is in charge of all weddings in the church. Premarital counseling is required. Make arrangements for sessions with the pastor when you are settling on a date. If you wish other clergy to assist or participate, ask the pastor about issuing an invitation. Also, consult the pastor if you have a request for music other than what is traditionally considered sacred. The relationship between the pastor and active members of the church differs from that with nonmembers. A wedding that includes an active member takes place in the context of an ongoing relationship of spiritual nurture and care within the life of the whole congregation. Because the pastor's participation is a gift of the heart, you are welcome to show appreciation in a way that best expresses yours. Nonmembers need to consult the pastor regarding fees for professional services (premarital Christian counseling, rehearsing and officiating the service).

Ritual

The pastor will use a service from the United Methodist Book of Worship.

He or she has the discretion to approve any variation of the traditional wedding service. Consult with the pastor to determine the specifics. If you wish Holy Communion to be included in the service, the sacrament will be offered to the entire congregation.



Scheduling and Arrangements

Contact the church office as far in advance as possible to check on the availability of your preferred date in order to start the process of reserving the Sanctuary, Chapel or Wesley Center.

(Most days are available, except New Year's, Holy Week and Easter, Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas, or those on which church services or special events are already scheduled.)

Obtain and read the *Building Use Policy, Guidelines for Weddings* and the *Facilities Use Fees and Deposit Schedule*. Obtain, complete and return promptly the *Building Use Reservation Form for Weddings* to the church office.

Contact the pastor, organist and director of music ministries immediately to assure their availability. Set up appointments to discuss all important matters.

Available Facilities

The seating capacity of the Sanctuary is 350; the Wesley Center, 250; and the Chapel, 40.

These rooms are available for dressing:

- Sanctuary and Chapel -- option of parlor or choir room for bride and bridesmaids; basement youth room for groom and groomsmen.*
- Wesley Center -- Amey Womble classroom for bride and bridesmaids; library for groom and groomsmen.*

*Make arrangements with a JUMC wedding director to use other rooms if desired and deemed appropriate.

Do not leave valuables in the dressing rooms. If the reception is to be held elsewhere, remove all possessions after the ceremony. Leave the facilities as you find them, including sweeping the sidewalks as needed (no birdseed is permitted inside).

Music

The presence of God with the bridal couple and the gathered congregation, and the profound significance of the service are reflected in the music of the wedding ceremony. Sacred music is played or sung, leaving secular music (love songs or romantic, operatic or theater pieces, etc.) and all forms of recorded music for other festive events such as the rehearsal dinner or reception. The church organist or director of music ministries can suggest appropriate selections, or you may make requests of them after you have consulted the pastor. For congregational hymns, check page 953 in the United Methodist Hymnal for a list of hymns appropriate for a wedding service, or check with the pastor, organist or director of music ministries.

Consult the church organist about the use of the Sanctuary organ or piano, or the Chapel piano if it is to be played by anyone else. Be sure to notify the church organist of any and all practice times when the instruments will be used.

Consult the director of music ministries to make arrangements for music in the Wesley Center (the praise band, for example).

Also, consult the church organist or director of music ministries about fees for their services, negotiable based on time involved and complexity of arrangements.

