



## WEDDING POLICY

WACOUSTA COMMUNITY  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

9180 HERBISON ROAD

EAGLE, MICHIGAN 48822

Phone: 517-626-6623

E-mail: [office@wacoustaumc.org](mailto:office@wacoustaumc.org)

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### Wacousta Community United Methodist Church

9180 Herbison Rd.  
Eagle, Michigan 48822

Phone: 517-626-6623

email: [pastoramee@gmail.com](mailto:pastoramee@gmail.com) or  
[office@wacoustaumc.org](mailto:office@wacoustaumc.org)

#### Introduction

Thank you for considering celebrating your wedding vows at the Wacousta Community United Methodist Church. This pamphlet is designed to assist you in your consideration. It includes:

- the church's theology of the wedding ceremony
- building use policy
- scheduling information
- other personnel
- fees and honoraria

#### The Christian Wedding

The church understands the service of Christian Marriage to be above all else a service of Christian worship. The assumption is that at least one of the two persons being married is a professing Christian and, therefore, active in the life of a Christian congregation (most typically in the United Methodist Church here in Wacousta).

The service consists of two persons committing their love and their lives to one

another before God and in the presence of a congregation consisting of their family and friends. God's blessing is asked upon the couple as they begin their new lives together as husband and wife. There is within the service opportunity for the reading of scriptures of the couple's choice and provision for a sermon if desired by the couple.

The sacrament of Holy Communion may be included in the service, but in accordance with our Methodist tradition, it must be offered to all present. (Serving only the wedding party, for instance, would not be appropriate within our tradition.)

#### Building Use Policy

For members of this congregation the church building holds a sacred significance. It is where we meet God in worship, where our children are baptized, where final words of love and thanksgiving are spoken over departed loved ones...and where people dear to us join themselves to one another in holy marriage. Remembering this, we expect the building to be treated with respect both in your actions and in your attitudes.

We ask that rice not be used at the church, and that if birdseed is thrown, it be done so only outside the building.

Out of respect for the historic tradition of our denomination, the use of alcohol and tobacco is prohibited in our church building and on church grounds.

**Note:** Because of the flexibility our sanctuary affords, our chancel and seating configurations change at various times

throughout the year. Our policy is to not rearrange the sanctuary in any substantive way for weddings.

### **Scheduling**

Scheduling of the service should be done through the pastor who will confirm the availability of a date both with the church calendar and the pastor's personal calendar. A rehearsal usually takes place the day before the wedding ceremony and is scheduled at the same time.

Couples must also schedule three premarital consultations with the pastor.

### **Other Personnel**

In addition to the pastor, a host of other people work to ensure that things go smoothly on your wedding day.

### Accompanist

The church offers its own music director first choice for playing at weddings in the church. If our music director is not available for a particular date, the church can provide you with a list of other organists, or you may select one of your own choosing. Our music director is reimbursed on a sliding fee scale found below, which is determined by the amount of music used, and rehearsals with soloists, if any. The music director is paid directly by the couple.

### Custodian

The church custodian is responsible for having the building clean and presentable for your ceremony, and to clean it up following the service in preparation for the next building use.

### Sound Technician

This individual runs the sound board for the sanctuary sound system and attends the microphone needs of the wedding.

### Wedding Coordinator

Our wedding coordinator will be present at both the rehearsal and wedding to assist with the rehearsal, coordinate the service, answer questions, start attendants down the aisle at the appropriate times, and generally ensure that everything runs smoothly.

### **Fees & Honoraria for Members**

Church Use Fee	\$0
Pastor's Honoraria*	\$200
Accompanist	\$85 - \$125
Audio Technician	\$25
Video Technician	\$25
Custodian	\$50
Wedding Coordinator	\$50

### **Fees & Honoraria for Non-Members**

Church Use Fee	\$200
Pastor's Honoraria*	\$200
Accompanist	\$85 - \$125
Audio Technician	\$50
Video Technician	\$50
Custodian	\$50
Wedding Coordinator	\$75

The check for the Church Use Fee, Custodian, Coordinator and Technicians is made out to: **The Wacousta Community United Methodist Church.**

The check for the Accompanist is made out directly to that person.

The check for Pastor is made out to **Ameé Paparella.**

All fees are due the evening of the rehearsal.

\*There is no set fee for pastoral services for active church members. While gifts for pastoral services are accepted, there exists no obligation.

Revised July, 2015