



**Adirondack Community Church**

Loving. Learning. Growing. • Lake Placid, New York



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Wedding Policy

Reviewed and Approved September 2025

Thank you for considering holding your wedding at **Adirondack Community Church**. We are a United Methodist congregation. These policies and procedures are designed to prevent any surprises and disappointments regarding what should be one of the most special moments in your life...your wedding.

## **The Wedding:**

Here at Adirondack Community Church we believe that marriage is a covenant between the couple and God. We believe that the wedding ceremony is to be part of a service of divine worship celebrating that covenant. Every aspect of the wedding shall be designed to conform to and enhance the dignity of the worship service.

Serious study and careful judgment have gone into the preparation of this wedding policy. Our church leadership team has reviewed and approved the policies. **Please read them carefully, understanding that your full cooperation and engagement in this process is expected, as you endeavor to uphold the high standards that the church desires.**

Our church sanctuary can comfortably seat 150-200 people. It is equipped with a piano, an organ, and a sound system.

## **Guest Clergy:**

The pastor is expected to officiate at all weddings scheduled at Adirondack Community Church. If you wish for other ordained clergy to participate in the wedding or to officiate the wedding in place of the pastor, then this must be discussed with the pastor in the initial meeting. Invitations to other ordained clergy will be issued solely at the discretion of the pastor.

## **Counseling:**

Pre- wedding counseling is required of all couples wishing to be married at Adirondack Community Church. These sessions will be discussed with the bride and groom and the pastor on how to accommodate the couple, especially those who live outside this immediate area.

## **The Rehearsal:**

Rehearsal is usually scheduled the evening before the wedding day. All participants are expected to be present and ready to begin *on time*. The couple should bring the fees to pay the pastor and wedding coordinator. The marriage license should also be given to the pastor at the rehearsal.

### **The Ceremony:**

The liturgies, customs and polity of the United Methodist Church will be followed as stated in our **Book of Discipline** regarding marriage.

### **Communion:**

If you wish to celebrate Holy Communion as a part of your wedding ceremony, the customs of the United Methodist Church shall be followed:

- The Communion table will be open to all who repent of their sin and seek to grow in a relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior (not just the wedding party or bride/groom).
- Communion will be officiated by the pastor or another Elder in the United Methodist Church. The pastor will either use the order of service for Communion from the **Book of Worship** or another source that is approved by the pastor.
- Communion is served by *intinction*. The pastor will be happy to train the bride and groom to serve the consecrated elements as their first act together as husband and wife.

**Music** used in the wedding is expected to support the atmosphere of Christian worship as part of the ceremony. All music is subject to approval by the pastor and/or the organist, if used. The church will provide the sound system for pre-recorded music.

**Decorations:** Any decorations including flowers are the responsibility of the wedding party. All decorations must be removed from the church after the wedding is over, unless other arrangements are made with the pastor prior to the wedding date. No decorations may be placed upon the altar. It is recommended that all decorations be discussed with the pastor prior to purchasing or creating them.

Candles are to be purchased by the couple who wish to provide their own unity candle and the two family candles. These are nice keepsakes for the bride and groom. The church has two candelabras available for your use, if desired.

If you wish to use a floor runner, approximately 50' will be needed. There is one center aisle.

### **Miscellaneous Policy:**

A representative of the church will be present at all times that the wedding party is in the church.

No alcoholic beverages may be consumed or possessed on church property. **Please note: violation of this policy will result in cancellation of the wedding with no refund of fees.**

There is NO smoking permitted in the church.

We request that no food or beverages be taken in the sanctuary (except bottled water).

Cell phones are expected to be turned off as guests enter the church. It is helpful if you add this statement to

your wedding bulletin (if applicable).

***Throughout the process of preparation for your wedding, the pastor reserves the right to decide not to perform your wedding. In that event, all fees paid will be refunded in full.***

#### **Wedding Application:**

After reading through these policies, if you wish to request to hold your wedding at Adirondack Community Church, please fill out the online application. This can be found on our website:

<http://adkcomchurch.org/contact/weddings>

Upon receipt of your application and building use fee (see below), a representative of the church will be in touch with you to schedule a meeting with the pastor.

#### **Wedding Fees:**

##### **Non-Members of Adirondack Community Church**

Building Use: \$850 (paid to Adirondack Community Church)

Pastor (if officiating): \$450.00

Pastor (if not officiating and in a co-coordinating role): \$225

Church Wedding Coordinator: \$200

##### **Members of Adirondack Community Church**

Pastor (Officiant): Couple's discretion

Building Use: no fee

Wedding Coordinator: Couple's discretion

Audio / Video services (if applicable): \$125.00

#### **ALL WEDDINGS:**

**Building use fee must accompany the application and will be held as a deposit for the day you are requesting. No dates will be held without full payment of the building use fee.**

#### **Payment Methods:**

The building use fee may be paid by cash, check payable to Adirondack Community Church, or online using a credit/debit card or bank account (<http://adkcomchurch.org/give>). If you choose to pay online, choose the drop-down option "Weddings." We request that you also cover the fees associated with this online transaction.

Fees for the pastor and wedding coordinator should be made payable directly to them (cash or check) and should be paid at or before the rehearsal.

#### **Questions?**

The church office is open Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. We are closed on Fridays. Our Ministry Assistant is happy to answer your questions and familiarize you with our facilities during office hours. Please call the church at 518-523-3753 or email [info@adkcomchurch.org](mailto:info@adkcomchurch.org).