



Statement of Policy - F.U.M.C. Clergy, Off Site

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The family of First United Methodist Church (F.U.M.C.) in Lexington, Kentucky believes a wedding ceremony should be Christ-centered. The ceremony and its preparations should bring honor and glory to God.

The church looks upon your wedding as a sacred union between two people who are blessed of God. It is, therefore, considered an act of worship and is approached as such. An altar is the appropriate place for the exchange of vows between “those whom God has joined together” (Matthew 19:6).

The Administrative Council and members of First United Methodist Church are happy to provide church facilities or appointed clergy to an off-site ceremony for members as well as non-members, in accordance with church policy and procedures. Your wedding is important to us. We will endeavor to assist in making it the special event it should be.

F.U.M.C. Clergy, Wedding Coordinator(s), or Wedding Administrators are not required to provide for, or compelled to perform, or prohibited from performing a wedding ceremony. Our marriage policies are consistent with the United Methodist Church’s Book of Discipline and its Social Principles.

- F.U.M.C. believes premarital counseling is an essential piece of a Christ-centered marriage. Premarital counseling:
 - Is required for all couples requesting to marry at F.U.M.C. or off-site by F.U.M.C. Clergy
 - Is led by F.U.M.C. Clergy
 - Content includes *The Bible - What does the Bible say about marriage?* and *Prepare Enrich - An assessment tool that helps couples identify strength and growth areas in their relationship.*
- Holy communion in the United Methodist Church is an open table, meaning offered to all.
- F.U.M.C. Clergy will assist in selecting scripture for the wedding ceremony.
- A marriage license is required.

Notes / Questions

*“And though one might prevail against
another, two will withstand one.
A threefold cord is not quickly broken.”*

Ecclesiastes 4:12

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