

Wedding Procedures and Guidelines
Roseville and Mainesburg United Methodist Churches
Rev. Michelle R. Bodle
Pastor.michelle.bodle@gmail.com

Welcome:

Congratulations on your decision to be married in the Roseville/ Mainesburg United Methodist Parish. This is an important day for you , and this statement has been prepared to help you plan and prepare for your wedding service. While this policy statement cannot anticipate each and every situation, please know that I am flexible and will work with you to ensure a joyous, personalized wedding celebration.

Marriage is ordained by God as a gift. As such, marriage is viewed as a lifelong commitment to be shared with one another. I would encourage you to remember the adage, “A wedding is just one day, but a marriage is fore a lifetime.” Any wedding service should be considered first and foremost a worship service; it is a joyous occasion to seek God’s blessing for the years ahead.

General Information:

No seeds or rice shall be thrown at the conclusion of the service. The church suggests bubbles instead. If you have other items that you would like to use, please contact the pastor so she can clear it with the borough/ township if necessary.

Alcoholic beverages in any way or in any amount will not be permitted on the church property. The pastor has the right to cancel the wedding if alcohol is found on the church property the day of the wedding or at the rehearsal.

Dates:

All dates must be approved by the pastor before a wedding can be scheduled. It is important that sufficient time be allowed to guarantee a wedding date. A date is not placed on the calendar until either the bride or groom has spoken with the pastor. Please note, the pastor holds the right to refuse to allow the church to be used for the wedding or refuse to marry the couple, if she feels that they are not prepared for the covenant before them or have not met the terms of this agreement.

Clergy Involvement:

The pastor of the Roseville and Mainesburg UM churches is appointed by the Bishop of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church so the pastor is to preside at the marriage. If a clergy person from another church is to be part of the wedding service, the invitation must come from the host pastor. The role of outside clergy is left to the discretion of the presiding pastor. Likewise, if the pastor of RMUMC is requested to be part of your wedding service at another church, the invitation must come from the host pastor of the church. It is suggested that the clergy presiding at your wedding receive an honorarium of your choosing.

Pre-Marital Counseling:

All couples are required to participate in premarital counseling as a part of the process. The counseling will involve a discussion of the couple’s strengths and weaknesses and their

marriage goals. Time will also be devoted to discussing the wedding liturgy and planning the service. Plan on meeting with the pastor 3-4 times prior to the wedding. These sessions are to be scheduled by contacting the pastor at (570)549-5181 or pastor.michelle.bodle@gmail.com

Rehearsal:

The rehearsal is usually held the night before the wedding. The time should be set with the pastor. Please have your marriage license with you to give to the presiding pastor at the time of your rehearsal. A license issued in any PA county is valid anywhere in PA. The license is valid for 60 days from the date of issue.

Decorations:

Ribbons or simple floral arrangements may be used to mark pews. However, no nails, thumbtacks, or tape are to be used on Church woodwork. If you desire a white runner, they can be purchased for the florist of your choice.

Candles:

The candles on the altar are free for your use, as well as the acolyte candle if desired. Additional candles, including the unity candle, may be purchased by the couple or by the church, if desired. If you would like the church to order candles for your wedding, please contact the pastor at pastor.michelle.bodle@gmail.com at least three months ahead of the date of your wedding to ensure that they arrive on time. Please note any candles in addition to those on the altar will come at a fee to the couple.

Music:

When having an outside organist, please contact the church at least two months prior to the date of your wedding so they can have time to practice with the instrument. When contacting the church, please provide the organist's name and telephone number.

Also, please let the pastor know if you intend for the church musicians from RMUMC to play at your wedding so arrangements can be made.

Photography:

Flash photography is allowed prior to and following the worship service. Pictures may be taken during the service, however, it is requested that they do not detract from the service itself or use flash photography. Please feel free to discuss any specific needs or questions you may have with the pastor.

Fees:

Fees are as follows:

Church Musician (if required)	as negotiated
Candles:	
Alter Candles	Free
All other Candles	TBD
Sanctuary Fee	\$200

(This fee is waived for persons who are active in the life of the RMUMC Parish. If in doubt, ask the pastor if this fee is applicable)

Bulletin Fee \$20

(If the Church secretary does your bulletins. Please note this does not include the cost of the bulletin cover you choose.)

If for any reason the couple would need additional items, the church will adjust their fee accordingly. If there is any question as to what the church is or is not providing, please do not hesitate to contact the pastor.

May you have a blessed wedding!

Please sign and print your name with today's date

Groom: _____

Bride: _____

Pastor: _____

Please provide the best address and phone number to reach you at: