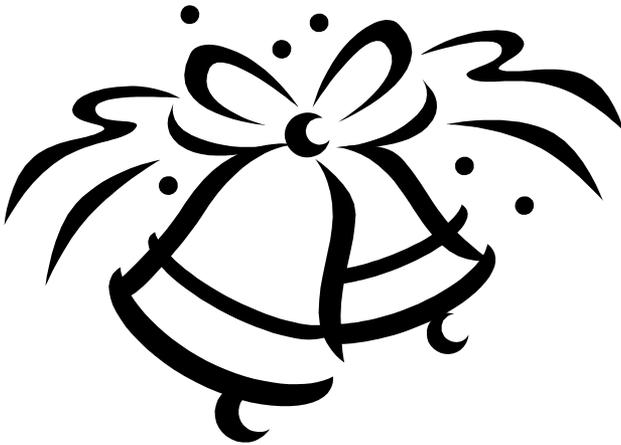


Forest Hill United Church

~ Celebrate God ~ Be in Community ~
Reach Out to Others ~

*A Celebration
Of
Christian Marriage*



*A HANDBOOK FOR THE
ENGAGED COUPLE*

office@foresthillunited.org

519-744-3481

YOUR WEDDING SERVICE

Fees

Our flat fee of \$900.00 with a (non refundable) \$250.00 deposit, which reserves your date with the church, is due upon your first booking with the Forest Hill United Church Minister. The balance of \$650.00 must be in the office two weeks before the wedding date. Payments can be made in person by cash, e-transfer or certified cheque.

Your fee includes the following;

- Wedding service on your agreed date
- Consultations with Forest Hill United Church minister as you require
- Wedding rehearsal
- Forest Hill's Organist –MJ Johnson **416-435-5465**
It is is **your** responsibility to connect with her.
- Custodial service
- Free parking

Please note that the fee of \$900.00 is non- negotiable and includes all services listed above whether you choose to use them all or not.

Additional non negotiable fees - if applicable

- AV Tech - \$25.00 per hour
- Church Representative \$25.00 per hour

Marriage License

Any two persons eligible to be married in Ontario may be married by Forest Hill's Minister. Forest Hill supports equal marriage i.e. marriage for both same and other gender couples.

A marriage license must be purchased from the City Clerk's Office at City Hall before the wedding. In some cases, in lieu of a license, a marriage may be solemnized under the authority of "publications of banns". This requires that both partners are in the habit of regularly attending worship at Forest Hill or another church which meets the stipulations for the reading of banns. Once you have purchased your marriage license you should submit it (unsigned) to the church secretary for completion and safe-keeping. **This needs to be done at least three working days prior to your wedding.**

Rehearsal

A rehearsal will usually be scheduled for the evening preceding your wedding. For small, informal weddings a rehearsal may not be necessary.

Officiating Clergy

Normally, a minister of Forest Hill will officiate at your wedding service. If you would like to have some other minister participate in the service, discuss this with Forest Hill's minister. If another minister is to be involved in the service, it is proper for the invitation to be extended to her or him by Forest Hill United Church's minister.

The Music

Secular music is not part of the service. If important to you, it is more appropriately used during other parts of the marriage celebration. Music for the service is to be appropriate for worship and the praise of God.

It is your responsibility to contact our organist, MJ Johnson 416-435-5465 directly. She will assist you with music selections.

The Processional

You may choose to enter the sanctuary with a traditional procession of the brides' attendants and the bride, or in a more contemporary fashion as couples, or with each of you escorted by your parents. Similar options are available for same gender couples. Often for smaller, more intimate gatherings, those participating in the wedding are simply brought together more formally as the service is about to begin. One of our ministers will be happy to discuss these and other alternatives with you.

The Scriptures, Readings, Prayers, Vows

You will be encouraged to choose the Scripture lessons and other readings appropriate for your wedding. The minister will provide choices for you to choose from. **A hardcopy of your choice must be in the office when making your final payment.**

The Blessing of Your Families

In the United Church of Canada the service of Christian marriage does not have a place for the former tradition of ‘giving away’ the bride. In its place, parents and/or families, and guests will be asked for their blessing and support for your marriage.

Signing the Register

The signing of the register will be in the sanctuary so that your guests will be able to witness this part of your wedding service.

Decorations

If flowers or other decorations are placed in the church, **time of delivery is to be arranged with the church office 519-744-3481.** Flowers may be placed on the stands at the front of the church. Pew bows are also allowed but they must be attached with masking tape only. It is your responsibility to supply all decorations.

Confetti

Confetti, rice etc., are not be used in or on church property

Children in the Wedding Party

It is recommended that young children not be part of your wedding party. If you choose to have young children stand with you during the service, it is suggested that there be family or friends sitting nearby to attend to the children as needed.

Photographs / Video graphing

Your photographer **or** videographer must speak with the minister before the service. Your wedding is a service of worship. As such, we want to have as few distractions as possible. No flash pictures may be taken during the service and your professional photographer will need to be in a stationary, unobtrusive location. We will ask that your guests not take pictures during the service except at specific times such as Processional, Signing of the Register, Recessional. You should check with your photographer – he or she may not want pictures being taken while they are photographing your wedding. Videotaping may be done from the balcony or with a stationary camera in the chancel.