

**THE
SERVICES
of the
CHURCH**

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United Evangelical Church

United Church of Christ

East Ave.at Dillon

Baltimore 24, Md.

WEDDINGS

All weddings are normally solemnized in the sanctuary, unless for some special reason the ceremony is desired in the pastor's study.

As early as possible the date and time should be chosen and this information given to the pastor, that it might be entered upon the church calendar. Also a time for the pre-marital consultation must be set with the pastor. Approximately an hour should be allowed for this consultation.

FACILITIES AND APPOINTMENTS FOR THE CEREMONY

The church provides the kneeling bench for the ceremony and the candles on the altar. If a white aisle runner is desired, plus extra candles in holders, these can be arranged for through the florist.

Music at the Wedding

All music at the church is under the direction of the Pastor and the Director of Music. The Director is the logical person to serve at the wedding. However, if one prefers to have a guest organist, arrangements must be made at the discretion of the Director of Music before such a person is permitted to use the organ.

Since the wedding ceremony is essentially a religious service, and not a secular gathering, it is therefore advisable to use music which is fitting for such a service rather than the 'popular type' songs and organ. The vocal music used is to be approved by the pastor and the Director of Music.

A soloist, if desired, can be provided by the Director of Music.

Pictures at the Wedding

No pictures will be permitted by a photographer or any other individual once the wedding processional has begun. The photographer and friends should be informed of this rule.

Pictures may be taken before the wedding from the back of the church as members of the wedding party prepare to enter the sanctuary. Pictures may be taken at the altar and elsewhere after the ceremony is concluded. The Pastor will be available for these pictures, if requested.

Floral Arrangements at the Wedding

The primary rule as regards floral arrangements is that no floral piece nor basket is to be placed on or directly in front of the altar. When baskets of flowers are used (in addition to the cut flowers in the vases) these may be placed at either side of the altar.

Fees and Honorariums at the Wedding

When neither the bride nor the groom are members of the church, the following fees are in effect:

For use of the church	\$15.00
For Director of Music	10.00
For Soloist	10.00
For Caretaker	5.00
For Pastor	15.00
	<u>\$55.00</u>

When either the bride or groom are members of the church, the charge for the use of the church does not apply, nor is the honorarium to the Pastor a fixed amount. Fees are to be paid prior to ceremony.

Use of Rice at Weddings

It is strongly requested that no rice be thrown within the church building. The bride and groom are requested to make this fact known to all in the circle of their friends.

BAPTISMS

Time for Baptism

All baptisms are conducted as a part of the morning service of worship on the third Sunday of the month unless unusual conditions or an emergency precludes other arrangements.

Application for baptism

Application for baptism can be made through the church office or to the pastor. When parents are not in membership with the church, a consultation with the pastor is to be arranged.

Honorariums

It has been the custom of the church that an honorarium be tendered the pastor. This is not obligatory on the part of members but may be followed if desired.

From non-member families an honorarium not less than \$5.00 is to be forthcoming.

Godparents

All children who receive the Sacrament of Baptism should have godparents (sponsors). This again is a desirable arrangement but not mandatory.

These godparents are to be chosen by the parents, and can be grandparents, relatives or friends, with the following qualifications:

1. The godparents should be beyond confirmation age.
2. The godparent should be a Protestant and an active member of a Protestant Church.

Normally there are two godparents, a godfather and a godmother.

Both of the parents and both godparents are to be present in the sanctuary at the time of the baptism, with the godmother holding the child.

FUNERALS

The pastor is to be notified at the time of death by a family member. The pastor will then come to see the family either at their home or at the Funeral Home, for it is his desire to visit such a family in their time of need.

The arrangements for the funeral service can be decided upon between the family, the funeral director and the pastor.

Members of the church have the privilege of using the church sanctuary. If a church funeral is desired, there is then a charge of \$10.00 for the Director of Music, \$10.00 for a possible soloist and \$5.00 for the Caretaker.

The honorarium to the pastor from non-member families is \$15.00. From member families the honorarium is not a fixed amount.

If flowers from the funeral are brought to the church, no more than two baskets are requested.

CONFIRMATION

Youth are to be entered in the Confirmation class in the September in which they enter the 8th grade, so that the Rite of Confirmation is bestowed prior to the youth's entrance into High School.

The class is organized each September and class sessions are held weekly until the time of Confirmation on the following Palm Sunday.

Attendance at the sessions of the class as well as at the Sunday morning sessions of the Sunday School and the major church services is required. Attendance records will be kept of the child's attendance, and if it is irregular, then suspension from the class will be forthcoming.

Parents of the members of the Confirmation class are also expected to be in attendance at the services of worship regularly.

At Confirmation time, white robes are rented and are worn for the three Sundays of Confirmation festivities, with the rental price being paid by the parents of the youth.

Other charges will include the cost of the materials used for the Confirmation Course.

It has been the custom of the church that an honorarium be tendered the pastor at Confirmation time. For non-member families, this is to be at the figure of \$15.00. There is no fixed amount from member families.

WHEN YOU ARE ILL OR HAVE DIFFICULTY

The pastor is desirous of making calls into the homes and hospitals when illness or accident causes one to be confined.

The ill, or a family member, is requested to inform the church office of such illness, as the pastor cannot make calls if he is unaware of the situation. The Sacrament of Communion can also be provided, at request.

Further, the pastor is here to serve the congregation upon any occasion. If you have difficulty in your personal or family life; if you have problems or trials, please know you can call the pastor and he will be glad to come to your home or have you come to the office.