

GROVELAND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ

4 King Street
Groveland, Massachusetts 01834
Rev. Lance C. Dallaire, Pastor

Telephone: 978-372-3463
e-mail: gccucc@verizon.net
www.grovelanducc.org

Wedding Policy

The purpose of the Wedding Policy is to maintain for the couple desiring to be married: pastoral care through the performance of premarital counseling, the wedding ceremony and to secure fair compensation for the church staff and use of the church building(s) and grounds.

1. The wedding date should be set well in advance to reserve the church and make arrangements with Pastor's schedule and church activities. A minimum of at least **six weeks** is recommended. Telephone number to call is: 978-372-3463.
2. The Pastor should be consulted in order to schedule at least three (3) pre-marital sessions.
3. The Pastor will officiate at all weddings in the Church unless he/she is unavailable. The Pastor, if requested by the couple, may extend an invitation to another clergy person to assist in the ceremony. The Pastor will conduct the rehearsal and will explain all procedures and policies. ***The marriage license and all applicable fees must be in the Pastor's possession before the rehearsal begins.***
4. A variety of wedding ceremonies and related materials are available from the Pastor.
5. The couple in consultation may choose music with the Pastor and Organist, Linda Paulet (978-372-5664) and subject to their approval. Arrangements need to be made **after** the wedding date is *confirmed*. Only the Organist of the Church may play the organ for weddings, unless he/she is unavailable. In which case, the party through the recommendation of Linda Paulet will suggest a substitute. The couple shall consult with the Organist at least two (2) months prior to the ceremony.
6. The couple should make arrangements with a florist for wedding decorations, including a white, plastic runner, if desired. Ribbon or simple floral arrangement may be used to mark the pews, but without defacing woodwork; do **not** use tacks or tape. Simple and tasteful decorations are encouraged.
7. The church has liquid wax candles and candleabras available for use on the altar. Any other candles used must be dripleless.
8. Photographers and/or videographers are welcome; but will be asked not to distract from the ceremony. They need to speak to the Pastor prior to the wedding ceremony. No flash pictures are allowed by those in attendance during the ceremony. Posed pictures may be staged following the service.
9. The use of confetti or rice is not permitted anywhere within the church or on church grounds. Please use birdseed outside of the church. It is not to be brought inside the church.
10. Smoking is not permitted within the church.
11. Alcoholic beverages are **not** permitted within the church or on church grounds. If anyone in the wedding party has been drinking or is intoxicated, either at the rehearsal or the wedding ceremony, the wedding ceremony **will not** be performed. Guests under the influence will be asked to leave the premises.
12. The Fellowship Hall is available for receptions on a rental basis. No alcoholic beverages are permitted on church property. Rental arrangements can be made through the church office.
13. It is the responsibility of the couple being married to insure that all of the above concerns are followed and enforced.