

Weddings

at Mt. Harmony/Lower Marlboro United Methodist Church
410-257-2761

The service of Christian marriage is a celebration of all embracing good news of God's grace.

Please read the following information carefully, and then contact those people who will be assisting to make your wedding ceremony a memorable occasion. May God bless you as you make preparations for your marriage and your life together.

Pastor	Rev. Faith Lewis
Pianist	Allison Ernst
Sound Techs	BJ Lloyd & John Jelks
Wedding Coordinators:	Vera Wilkerson & Louise Fowler
Building Operations:	Vernon Wilkerson & Judy Jenkins

Important Facilities Information

Mt. Harmony seats 250 persons with air conditioning.
Lower Marlboro Church seats 100 persons, but no A/C.
All Weddings will include the Wedding Coordinator, Sound Tech, Building Operator. Couples may utilize outside ordained clergy or musicians. Building Rental fee is for non-members.
Due to the danger of accidents, rice or confetti must not be in the building. Bird seed may be used outside of the Church building.
No smoking or alcoholic beverages allowed anywhere within the Church.
No alcoholic beverages may be served or be on premises of the church or parking lot.
Couples married at either church will get their Wedding License from the [Calvert County Clerk's office](#) in Prince Frederick, MD

SETTING THE WEDDING DATE:

It is essential that the minister approve the date and time of your wedding and rehearsal before any plans are made. (Please do this before your announcements or invitations are ordered). The minister will also make arrangements for your premarital counseling. No wedding shall be scheduled on Thanksgiving Eve/Day, Christmas Eve/Day, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, during Holy Week or on Easter.

FEES:

All wedding fees should be mailed or hand delivered to the Church, no later than thirty days prior to the wedding.

Pastor Officiating & Rehearsal	\$350
Wedding Coordinator	\$70
Sexton	\$50
Church Pianist (Check Availability)	\$250
Audio/Sound Support MP3/CD	\$50
Building Rental	\$350

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Our concern is that there be a worshipful, religious atmosphere at all services, including weddings. Flash photography and movement of the photographer during the ceremony is at the discretion of the bride and groom.

GUEST BOOK:

A podium is provided for the guest book. (The book itself must be secured by the bride). It is suggested that the podium be placed just outside the sanctuary door so that guests may sign as they arrive. A close friend or family member might be asked to be responsible for the care of this book.

WEDDING BULLETINS/PROGRAMS:

If you care to have printed programs of the ceremony, you may do so in cooperation with the Pastor. Many Christian Book Stores and internet websites sell specialty paper for you to use. Most couples wish to print their own handouts or bulletins, but if you would like the church office to handle this, please give 30 days advance notice for approval and plan on providing your choice of paper. The cost for printing of the bulletin is \$50. If you are interested, contact the church office at 410-257-2761.

DRESSING AT THE CHURCH:

If the wedding party desires to dress at the church, several rooms are available. It is suggested that you allow at least an hour for this purpose. This also provides time for special photographs of the bride, her attendants and family members. Please make sure that all floral belongings are removed from the rooms before leaving the church.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND SMOKING: Mt Harmony-Lower Marlboro Church is a drug-free zone. This means that no alcohol, drugs or cigarettes may be brought into the church building or be used on church property by any member of the wedding party, relatives or guests.

REHEARSAL DATE:

A rehearsal date should be arranged with the pastor as soon as possible. Forty five minutes to one hour should be allowed for the rehearsal, and we ask that parents of both the bride and groom attend, as well as the bridal party. It is important to arrive on time for your rehearsal. In cases where a rehearsal dinner or some similar occasion is scheduled for the evening, it is suggested that the rehearsal take place preceding the event.

WEDDING COORDINATOR:

The Wedding Coordinator or assigned assistant, will be available to assist you with flowers, the wedding party, and all other last minute preparations that occur at the rehearsal and at the wedding. Your Wedding Coordinator is prepared to see that your wedding proceeds smoothly as planned. **(Professional, outside wedding coordinators will not replace our church coordinators)**

MUSIC:

After the initial meeting with the pastor officiating at the wedding, the couple should contact the pianist to discuss music for the ceremony. It is assumed that the Church Music Director will provide all the music for all weddings. Exceptions may be granted at the discretion of the Director of Music. The use of appropriate music, both instrumental and vocal, will be determined in consultation with the music director. If you chose to use recorded music, you will need to contact one of the sound technicians.

LICENSE:

It is recommended that the marriage license be obtained at least a month before the wedding. The license is issued at the [Calvert County Clerks office](#) A 48-hour waiting period is required by the County, and the license is good for a six month period. Only the bride or groom may apply for the license. **The license is to be given to the church office at least two weeks prior to the date of the ceremony.**

PREMARITAL DISCUSSIONS

The Church pastor will meet with each couple for the purpose of premarital discussion. The pastor and couple will determine the number and content of sessions.

DECORATIONS:

The worship space may be made as festive and beautiful as possible. Simplicity in decorating usually brings more satisfactory results. The wedding ceremony is a sacred time and decorations should be chosen with this in mind. Flower arrangements are the responsibility of the couple.

When the person(s) delivering the flowers arrives they should first check with our Wedding Coordinator as to where items are to be placed and individual bouquets, boutonnieres, etc. are to be delivered.

Floral arrangements may be delivered to the church no earlier than two(2) hours prior to the service.

The use of tacks, staples, nails, tape, and candles of any kind to are not permitted. Candles are to be the non-drip.

At no time are arrangements or decorations of any kind be placed on the Pulpit, Lectern, or piano.

All items belonging to you are to be picked up no later than the first business day following the wedding.

Plans for elaborate arrangements and/or decorations (i.e. palms, ferns, large displays, window decorations, etc.) are to be made in consultation with the wedding coordinators.

All live arrangements, plants, etc. must be waterproof containers.

The florist shall be held responsible for any damage caused by leakage of containers and/or the decorations he/she attaches to the church property.

Sanctuary decorations for holiday seasons will not be removed for weddings. Please bear this in mind when planning your flowers and color schemes. During Thanksgiving harvest flowers and decorations are placed on the altar. During advent there are greens trimmed in red, and the Sunday before Christmas as well as Easter special decorations are used.

The church's Wedding Coordinator should be consulted for all questions regarding decorations. Church furniture and liturgical decorations will not be removed unless previously discussed with and approved by the wedding coordinator. (Pulpit and Chairs will be relocated before the Wedding).

FACILITIES:

Members of the wedding party, relatives, and guests are asked to treat our physical building with respect. Birdseed, rice, confetti or flower petals may not be thrown inside or outside of the building. You are expected to remove your trash and leave the church facilities in the same general condition as you found them.

Our Wedding Fee Checklist

WEDDING DATE _____ TIME _____

REHEARSAL DATE _____ TIME: _____

BRIDE'S NAME _____

GROOM'S NAME _____

Phone : _____ Email: _____

WEDDING FEES OVERVIEW

Church Building Rental **\$350.00**

Check payable to Mt. Harmony-Lower Marlboro UMC Church
Includes use of the worship service space, dressing rooms and restrooms

PASTOR'S HONORARIUM **\$350.00**

Check payable to Reverend Faith Lewis _____

PREMARITAL DISCUSSION **\$300.00**

Optional three sessions with pastor. _____

PIANO/ORGAN **\$250.00**

Check payable to: Allison Ernst _____

AUDIO CD/MP3 **\$ 50.00**

Check payable to: TBD _____

WEDDING COORDINATOR **\$ 70.00**

Make check payable to Vera Wilkerson _____

SEXTON **\$ 50.00**

Check payable to Judy Jenkins _____

All wedding fees should be made payable by separate checks as stated above, mail or hand delivered to Mt. Harmony UMC, 155 Mt. Harmony Road, Owings, MD 20736 no later than thirty days prior to the wedding.

Wedding Booklet



*Mt. Harmony United Methodist Church
155 Mt. Harmony Road Owings, MD 20736*



*Lower Marlboro United Methodist
6519 Lower Marlboro Lane
Owings, Maryland 20736*