

## FEES

The schedule of fees relating to weddings at Knox United Church is as follows:

<b>Officiating Minister</b>	\$250.00
<b>Church Organist</b> Consultation, rehearsal and service.	\$150.00
<b>Church Organist</b> Consultation Only	\$50.00
<b>Wedding Coordinator</b>	\$100.00
<b>Facility Fee</b> For persons who are not members, adherents, or financial contributors of Knox.	\$150.00
<b>Deposit</b> Required at booking Non-refundable 90 days prior to date.	\$150.00

Please note:

Balance of Wedding Fees (after deposit) are due at least 30 days prior to the date of the wedding. All fees must be brought to the church office by the specified time. Fees must be paid in cash, in envelopes, with name or position indicated thereon. Deposits are non-refundable 90 days prior to the wedding date.

Any location outside of Knox United Church must be discussed with the Minister and, if approved, appropriate fees will apply.

The incumbent Minister of Knox conducts all marriages ceremonies. Exceptions to this policy may be granted after consultation with our Minister and approval of the Spiritual Oversight Committee.



*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end... And now faith, hope and love abide, these three, and the greatest of these is love.*

*(NRSV, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8,13)*

# MARRIAGE GUIDELINES



Our Mission is to show the love of God by being like Jesus; showing mercy, promoting justice, offering hope, forgiving, accepting and loving all others.



## Knox United Church

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**THE SESSION AND CONGREGATION OF KNOX UNITED CHURCH** adopts as its understanding of the covenant of Christian Marriage the following statement:

***"For Christians, our relationship with God and with each other is rooted in our understanding of covenant. We know God as faithful, loving, compassionate, and just. We are called to embody this in our own relationships with each other.***

***Relationships cannot thrive and grow in isolation. They need the encouragement, nurture, support and accountability of community. Thus, covenants of Marriage and Life Partnership are public. In the Church we celebrate such covenants in the context of the public worship of God.***

***Relationships grounded in inclusivity, openness, respect and equality will be caring and loving. When one person turns to another and promises to love them, there is an opportunity to feel the Divine mystery and presence. By promising to live in faithful human covenant with another, there is potential to know, in part, God's faithful covenant with all God's people." From "Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Service", United Church of Canada.***

In light of this understanding of the Covenant of Marriage, the Council adopts the following guidelines for conducting marriages in the sanctuary of Knox United Church by its Ministers:

#### **WHO CAN BE MARRIED IN KNOX UNITED CHURCH?**

It is expected that the couple be known to the Knox Church Community in one of the following ways:

- a. One or both of the couple be a member of Knox.
- b. One or both of the couple be a faithful adherent of Knox.
- c. One of the couple is the son or daughter of a member or faithful adherent of Knox.
- d. Provide a letter of introduction from a United Church of which one of the couple is an active member.

#### **PRE –MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

- a. All couple seeking to be married at Knox must meet with our Minister, and other church leaders as our Minister deems appropriate, for pre-marital counselling and instruction in the meaning of Christian marriage and family.
- b. Couples planning to marry in Knox United Church are encouraged to participate in a pre-marriage course. Dates for these courses will be provided by our Minister or church office administrator. These classes help couples to share in discussion about such subjects as personal development, legal aspects of marriage, money management, family life, communications, sexuality, etc.

#### **ARRANGING THE DATE**

- a. Couples are asked to complete an "Applications to be Married at Knox United Church" and a meeting with the Minister will be arranged.
- b. The Application and a deposit of \$150 will be submitted to the church Office Administrator prior to the meeting. Confirmation of the wedding date will not be made until application and deposit are received. Deposit will be applied to the total fees, but is non-refundable 90 days prior to the wedding date.

#### **LICENSE**

In order to be married, the couple must obtain a marriage license/ This should be done well in advance of the wedding date. Licenses can be obtained at the municipal office of Halifax, Dartmouth or Sackville. The license must be delivered to the church office at least two weeks before the ceremony.

#### **MUSIC**

When a wedding date has been confirmed the church organist should be contacted immediately. All music in connection with the wedding must be appropriate to the Christian Service of Worship. Generally speaking, this means that music, in its entirety, expresses faith in God and the implications of that faith in our human relationships. Knox Church Organist is expected to play at Knox weddings. Approval of another organist can be arranged through the Knox Organist only after consultation re: ability to play our pipe organ and type of music. Use of another musician for piano, or other instrument, or use of taped music, will also be approved by the Knox Organist after consultation on the type of music. Cost for these consultations is \$50.00.

#### **PHOTOGRAPHS**

**NO** photographs may be taken during the **actual marriage ceremony**. There are other appropriate times when pictures may be taken, such as during the processional, recessional and the signing of the register. A video camera maybe be used at the discretion of the Minister.

#### **DECORATIONS**

Arrangements for delivery of flowers or decorations must be made through the church custodian. When decorating church pews or other wooden structures, no thumbtacks, nails or staples may be used.

**Please note:** NO confetti or natural flower petals are to be used in the church building.