



SAINT ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

[www.saintandrewshfx.ca](http://www.saintandrewshfx.ca)

WEDDINGS

Thank you for your interest in celebrating your covenant of marriage in Saint Andrew's United Church. We wish you many blessings as you prepare for your wedding.

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## **PART 1 WEDDING POLICY**

### **1. Marriage at St Andrew's**

Marriage at St. Andrew's is open to every couple, with or without a church home.

We anticipate that by being married in the church and by a minister, you are acknowledging the sacredness of loving partnership, including those within the LGBTQ+2S community.

### **2. Ministers**

Weddings are conducted by ministers on staff at Saint Andrew's United Church. This policy is not intended to exclude other clergy from being involved or assisting under special circumstances.

Our minister is Reverend Susan Chisholm. As calendars permit, she is available for weddings in the church as well as off-site.

The minister performing the ceremony normally meets with a couple for an hour initially to explore expectations and begin to plan the ceremony. A \$100 deposit is taken at this time to confirm the date. A subsequent meeting allows you to finalize details of the ceremony.

The Minister is available for consultation throughout your planning process.

### **3. Music**

The Saint Andrew's Minister of Music is Kevin Parks, a professional musician able to provide music on pipe organ and piano, in a wide range of genres: Classical, Jazz, R&B, Folk, Gospel, and Improvisation. It is an option for you to include our Minister of Music. Musicians of your choosing are welcome.

Guest musicians are required to consult with the Minister of Music on use of the organ, piano, and technical requirements for the ceremony.

Our sanctuary has an excellent sound system, with capacity for audio and visual specifications.

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## **PART 2 GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **1. Involvement in the Saint Andrew's community**

While membership and weekly attendance are not required, we encourage you to make use of the time between now and your wedding to attend church services regularly at St. Andrew's and take part in some of the events and activities of the congregation.

And we encourage you to find a spiritual home where you can be supported and nurtured in your relationship and in community in with others.

### **2. Church Facilities**

The Sanctuary of Saint Andrew's United Church seats up to 500 comfortably. Seating is flexible, and chairs can be arranged according to the needs of the ceremony.

There is a large stage, soaring wooden ceiling, and surrounding stained glass windows.

The pipe organ, grand piano, integrated AV system with microphones and projector/wall mounted screens are all available for use (with consultation).

### **3. Meeting with the Minister**

Once the booking of the wedding has been confirmed at your first meeting with the minister, a subsequent meeting will be scheduled to plan the ceremony.

You may make selections that will personalize your ceremony: please consider how you would like your relationship and commitment expressed. The minister will work with you to craft the wedding service.

### **4. Legal Requirements**

For marriage in the province of Nova Scotia, you are required to complete a Marriage License and Registration form. This form is available at any Access Nova Scotia Office. You will be asked to present proof of your vital statistics, such as your current marital status and your parents' names and birthplaces. The marriage license is valid for three months. Please deliver this

license to the church office with your fee payments (below) at least two weeks before the wedding.

## **5. Wedding Rehearsal**

A rehearsal is normally held for all weddings. It is typically an hour long and all members of the wedding party are asked to be present. A rehearsal date and time will be scheduled when you meet with the Minister.

## **6. Flowers and Other Decorations**

Flowers brought or delivered to the church should arrive at least one hour before the start of the wedding ceremony. Candles may be used but are not provided by the church.

Saint Andrew's has a large and moveable rainbow banner that you are welcome to use.

Please consult with the Minister about any other decorations you may be considering.

## **7. Confetti and Rice**

The throwing of confetti or rice inside or outside the church premises is not permitted.

## **8. Photographs and Videos**

The wedding ceremony is a sacred service. A single photographer is welcome to discreetly photograph or video the ceremony, however guests are not permitted to take photos until the ceremony is over.

If you wish to have one photographer to take a few pictures during the ceremony, please follow these guidelines:

- \* The photographer may neither disrupt nor detract from the service.
- \* No flashes or power winders
- \* No pictures may be taken during prayers or vows.

If more information or clarification is needed, please have your photographer phone the minister or attend the rehearsal.

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### **PART 3 HONORARIA AND FEES**

A \$100 non-refundable deposit is required to confirm a booking. This deposit is deducted from the total fee.

Payments can be made by cash or cheque (made out to Saint Andrew's United Church) or through CanadaHelps (linked on [www.saintandrewshfx.ca](http://www.saintandrewshfx.ca))

**The final payment is due in the church office two weeks before your wedding, with your marriage license.**

**Honoraria and Fees**

\$1800- \$2100

includes honoraria for staff,  
building rental costs  
and administration costs.

Final total will depend  
on staff and services required.

**Off-site Weddings**

\$500

includes honoraria to the Minister  
and administration costs