First United Methodist Church

206 S. Dowling St • P.O. Box 352 • Hallettsville*,* TX 77964

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**WEDDING POLICIES**

I. **License:** Apply at the County Clerk’s Office, Lavaca County Courthouse. Bring the License to Rehearsal**.** It is the Pastor’s responsibility to file the license with the civil authorities after the wedding.

II. **Church**: There is no charge to members or their immediate families for the use of the church for weddings. Weddings of non-members must be approved by the Pastor who will inform the Administrative Board. The charge for use of the church will be $100.

III. **Music**: Since the ritual for Holy Matrimony is a sacred event, celebrated in the church, the ceremony itself should reflect reverence, praise and discreteness. A church accompanist is available for most weddings. There will be a minimum fee of $75. If a non-church member is to play, the Pastor is to be consulted. All music must be approved by the Pastor well in advance of the rehearsal. Musical instruments must be approved by the Pastor.

IV. **Rehearsals:** All rehearsals are conducted by the Pastor. Wedding consultants may attend. All rehearsals are to begin on time. No rehearsal will be conducted when “any member” of the wedding party is under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The Pastor may refuse to conduct the rehearsal and/or the wedding.

V. **Decorations:** See attached “Florist/Decorator Guidelines”.

VI. **Photographs:** Consult with the Pastor concerning all photography.

VII. **Receptions:** If you wish to use the Fellowship Hall or the Annex for the reception, arrangements must be made through the church office and guidelines for those facilities will apply.

VIII. **Clean-up:** Each couple is responsible for preparing the church for the wedding and cleaning it after the service. Cleaning must be completed by 11pm of the wedding date.

IX. **Clergy:** If the bridal couple desires the services of a guest pastor, they must first consult with the Pastor of the First United Methodist Church for approval. If a guest pastor is requested, it is expected that the host Pastor be asked to assist in the service. No official other than an ordained minister can officiate.

X. Smoking is not allowed in any church building. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the premises.

XI. First United Methodist Church will not be responsible for loss of personal items.

XII. Persons reserving the facilities are financially responsible for any damage that may occur.

XIII. First United Methodist Church is not responsible for any accidents.

Approved by Administrative Board 07/13/15