

Policy on Marriage and the Blessing of Civil Marriages at United in Faith

This policy pertains to marriages and the blessing of civil marriages performed at United in Faith.

Couples desiring to be married or to have their civil marriage blessed at United in Faith must first contact the Pastor who will determine their eligibility for having the ceremony held at United in Faith. **All of the requirements listed below must be met by the couple who wish to be married or to have their civil marriage blessed at United in Faith.**

REQUIREMENTS

The couple must attend and complete premarital counseling given or approved by the Pastor.

The couple's wedding license should be left in the church office at least 24 hours prior to the wedding. You may contact the church office the week after your wedding for a photocopy of the license if no other arrangements were made.

The couple's selection of music must be approved by the Pastor. If the Pastor does not approve the music selection, then this requirement is not met.

The Pastor must feel comfortable performing the ceremony for the couple. If the Pastor, in his/her judgment, is not comfortable performing the ceremony for the couple, then his/her approval will not be given and this requirement is not met.

If the couple requests that another ordained minister from another Christian church preside over or assist in the ceremony, the Pastor must approve the request.

The couple is not required to be members of United in Faith.

The couple is not required to be of the same sex.

When UiF is without a Pastor (i.e with an interim pastor or just with supply pastors) an ELCA pastor can be used with the permission of the Congregational Council Executive Committee. The ELCA pastor will be responsible for seeing that all the above Requirements are met.