



LEASIDE UNITED CHURCH

Wedding Policy

Approved by Council June 14, 2017

Weddings, Joy, and Sacred Love

Weddings are a joyful occasion. We strive to help you put this joy inside the context of a community that celebrates joy at its divine source. Love and relationships are built on a strong belief in an underground stream of divine love and joy. As a community of faith, we see this expressed in many ways, including the intentional commitment of marriage. We encourage you to approach your wedding within this larger context of divine love and joyous celebration of the goodness of life. In our tradition, a story is told about Jesus attending a wedding. After a while, the wine ran out. However, the very presence of Jesus (the embodiment of love) at the feast, enabled more wine to be poured out, and the party carried on for quite a few days. This is a wonderful symbol of the joy and love that can be expressed through a church wedding.

Weddings and Welcome

As an Affirming Congregation, Leaside United Church is committed to creating a safe and welcoming space for all people. We strive to serve not just our congregation but our larger community and city. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, as well as all other forms of diversity, including differing ability, interfaith relationships, and many others! If you are coming from the LGBTQ+ community, you are welcome here. Regardless of your traditions, family background, and cultural background, you are welcome here. If you are in a relationship with different religious practices (or without religious practices), you are welcome here. We do expect that our minister and organist will perform the wedding unless there are exceptional circumstances. Details of the service will be decided on through shared discussion. While we are a Christian church community, we are open and affirming of who you are and will work together to find language and traditions that are meaningful for you and convey the larger joy of this expression of divine love.

Weddings and Marriages

Although weddings themselves are an occasion of joy, we think the work of a marriage is even more important. We expect that you will take part in a marriage preparation course, counseling, or another form of intentional marriage preparation. During your first meeting with our minister, you will be able to talk through possibilities for this important part of preparation for your marriage.

Practical Considerations

Please see our latest Weddings Guide for further information on weddings at Leaside United Church, including the current fees. Bookings will be confirmed once a deposit is paid, usually after a first meeting with our minister or officiant. Please contact our office as early as possible in your wedding preparations.

You are Welcome Here

Please contact the church by phone **416-425-1253**, or email our **Office Administrator** (leaside.admin@bellnet.ca) or **Minister** (emily@leasideunited.org).