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**DAVIDSONVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Contact Numbers**

**Pastors:**

Rev. Dr. Lisa Bandel-Sparks, Pastor  
Davidsonville United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 370  
Davidsonville, MD 21035  
(410) 798-5511

**Organist:**

Esther Peck  
921 Boom Way  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
(410) 266-6723

**Church Secretary:**

Pam Matousek  
Davidsonville United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 370  
Davidsonville, MD 21035  
(410) 798-5511

**Wedding Director:**

Caroline Scruggs  
Weekdays....  
301-937-1500 x14 or  
email her at Caroline Day Scruggs  
[caroline@ddminsurance.com](mailto:caroline@ddminsurance.com)

## Wedding Costs

- The wedding costs listed below are intended to answer all of your questions and to make sure that there are no hidden costs or surprises.
- As soon as you have talked to the church secretary and confirmed the date for your wedding you should send your **\$300 deposit (\$125 for members)** made out to Davidsonville United Methodist Church. This will reserve your wedding date on the church calendar.
- Not included in the costs listed below are the cost for bulletins, musicians other than the organist, additional ministers, or other wedding day services such as flowers and photography.
- The costs differ for those persons who are members of Davidsonville United Methodist Church and those who are non-members.

### Non-Members

- \$500 – Use of the church sanctuary and/or the Green Cathedral only (does not include use of the church hall)
- \$150 – Wedding Director Fee
- This amounts to **\$650** as the basic fee for use of the church and/or the Green Cathedral for non-members. The \$325 deposit will be subtracted from these costs leaving a balance of \$325 due one month in advance of your wedding.
- If the church organist, Mrs. Peck, or another organist arranged for by Mrs. Peck participates in the service an honorarium of \$150 is required. This check should be made out to Mrs. Peck or the specific organist performing the services.
- If Pastor Bandel-Sparks performs the wedding service or another pastor arranged by them an honorarium of \$175 is expected. This check should be made out to the pastor performing the wedding.
- All payments for services should be sent to the church office one month before the wedding. You may deliver checks to the church office or mail them to DUMC, P.O. Box 370, Davidsonville, MD 21035. This would include:
  - \$325 (balance due ) made out to Davidsonville United Methodist Church
  - \$150 made out to Esther Peck (or the organist who will be doing the wedding)
  - \$175 made out to Lisa Bandel-Sparks (or the pastor performing the wedding)
- **Members**
  - \$150– Wedding Director
- This amounts to **\$150** as the basic fee for the wedding. There are no charges for the use of the church nor is an honorarium expected for Pastor Lisa.
- If the church organist, Mrs. Peck, or another organist arranged for by Mrs. Peck participates in the service an honorarium of **\$150** is required. This check should be made out to Mrs. Peck or the specific organist performing the services.
- All payments for services should be sent to the church office one month before the wedding. You may deliver checks to the church office or mail them to DUMC, P.O. Box 370, Davidsonville, MD 21035. This would include:
  - \$150 made out to Davidsonville United Methodist Church
  - \$150 made out to Esther Peck (or the organist who will be doing the wedding)

## Wedding Preparation and Planning

### Reserving your date:

Reception of this booklet implies that you have scheduled your wedding with the church secretary. As soon as you return the non refundable deposit for \$325 (\$150 for members) and the information form in this packet your reservation is complete and the date considered booked. It is necessary to return your deposit within 2 weeks of receiving this packet to insure your wedding reservation. If we have not received your deposit within that time we reserve the right to schedule another wedding without contacting you.

### Pastoral Meetings

Once we have received your deposit our pastor will arrange pre-marital sessions with you.

### Wedding Director

You will need to call our Rehearsal and Wedding Director, Mrs. Caroline Scruggs (301-937-1500 x14) who will make our facilities available to you . If you have questions about the church facilities or wish to make an appointment to see the church facilities you may contact Mrs. Scruggs. For your convenience the Wedding Director will be present at the church:

- ❑ For one and a half hours (1½) for scheduled rehearsals. Rehearsals take approximately 1 hour so you and the wedding party will want to be prompt for scheduled rehearsals.
- ❑ For one hour prior to the scheduled time for the wedding to allow delivery of flowers and for 1½ hours after the scheduled beginning of the wedding. This should allow for sufficient time for photographs.

### Facilities

There are no dressing room facilities in the Church building. Members of the wedding party should arrive at the church already dressed for the ceremony. However, there is a room with a full length mirror for last minute checks and rest rooms are located upstairs and downstairs.

Seating capacity for the Sanctuary is approximately 160 persons.

Seating capacity for the Green Cathedral is approximately 200 persons.

If you are using the Green Cathedral for your wedding you should plan for the Sanctuary as a backup in case of inclement weather. There are electrical outlets at the Green Cathedral and you will need to make your own arrangements for sound or music equipment.

## Photographs

No flash photographs may be taken during the wedding ceremony with the exception of the entrance and exit by the wedding party. If you are arranging for a professional photographer be sure that he/she speaks to the pastor prior to the wedding to confirm the appropriate times for taking photographs and/or video. Please let your guests know that they should not take pictures during the service but may wait until after the service.

## Organist

Mrs. Esther Peck is the church organist and will play for all weddings using the church organ (or arrange for a substitute if she is not available.) If you plan your wedding service for the Church Sanctuary and wish to use the organ this *must* be scheduled with Mrs. Peck. She will also assist you in planning appropriate or special music for your wedding service. If Mrs. Peck is not available to play the organ for your wedding in the Sanctuary she will make arrangements for one of our qualified substitutes to play for your service. In the case of the Green Cathedral, if you wish to make arrangements for other persons to perform music for the service please clear this with the Pastor at your first counseling visit. You must make your own arrangements for sound or musical equipment for use at the Green Cathedral.

## Courtesy

Absolutely **NO SMOKING** is permitted in any part of the Church.

If you have any questions please call during office hours only, (410-798-5511) Tuesday and Thursday, 9- 4:30 p.m.

Only *birdseed* is allowed to be thrown outside the Sanctuary.

If you decide not to use our Church please contact the Church as soon as possible to allow the secretary to schedule another wedding at that time. Remember if we have not received your \$325 deposit within two weeks of receiving this booklet we reserve the right to schedule another wedding without contacting you.

## Flowers

The use of flower arrangements and candles for your ceremony should be discussed with the Wedding Director. You may leave flowers on the Altar or in the Sanctuary for Sunday Services. This should be discussed with the Wedding Director.

Arrangements for an aisle runner (50 feet) must be made by you with your florist. Also, flowers or bows for pews must be attached to a florist holder that clamps over the pew. Nothing is to be taped to pews or elsewhere in the Church Sanctuary.

## Obtaining an Anne Arundel County Marriage License

### Procedure

- Apply in person at the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court House, Church Circle, Annapolis. Circuit Court hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:15 PM. For directions or additional details, call 410-222-1434.
- The application process takes approximately ten minutes. Only one of the contracting parties needs to apply, but should be sure to know the following information for both the bride and groom: full name, age, birth date, state or country of birth and current address. Social Security numbers are asked, but not mandatory. If either the bride or groom has been married before, you also must provide the exact date, county and state of all divorces or deaths.
- Marriage licenses will be mailed to you or can be picked up at the Circuit Court House after 48 hours.

### Law

- You must have an Anne Arundel County marriage license to be married at Davidsonville United Methodist Church.
- There is a 48 hour waiting period to obtain a marriage license.
- Your license will be valid only in Anne Arundel County for six months after you receive it.
- Blood tests are not required in Maryland.
- There are no residency requirements to obtain an Anne Arundel County marriage license.
- Age restrictions under Maryland law:
  - 21 years of age and over – no restrictions.
  - 18 to 20 years of age – proof of age required (driver's license or birth certificate)
  - 17 years of age or younger – marriage licenses are issued only under special circumstances. Call the Circuit Court House for details.

**Bring the marriage license to the wedding rehearsal with all of the parts intact and the return envelope.**

### After the Wedding

The marriage license has 3 copies. The pastor performing the marriage will sign the appropriate copy and return it to you. One copy is signed and returned to the Circuit Court House and one copy is retained by the pastor for his/her records. The church cannot provide additional copies of the marriage license. Copies can only be obtained through the County Circuit Court House.

## A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

This service of Christian marriage.. It is provided for couples who wish to solemnize their marriage in a service of Christian worship, parallel in its structure to the Sunday service, which includes the proclamation of the Word with prayer and praise. Christian marriage is proclaimed as a sacred covenant reflecting the Baptismal Covenant. Everything about the service is designed to witness that this is a Christian marriage.

Both words and actions consistently reflect the belief that husband and wife are equal partners in Christian marriage and that they are entering into the marriage of their own volition.

Holy Communion may or may not be celebrated. If it is, it is most important that its significance be made clear. Specifically: (1) The marriage rite is included in a Service of Word and Table. (2) Not only the husband and wife but the whole congregation are to be invited to receive communion. It is our tradition to invite all Christians to the Lord's table. (3) There should be no pressure that would embarrass those who for whatever reason do not choose to receive communion.

The decision to perform the ceremony is the right and responsibility of the pastor, in accordance with the laws of the state and The United Methodist Church. All plans should be approved by the pastor. The pastor's "due counsel with the parties involved" prior to marriage, mandated by The Book of Discipline, should include, in addition to premarital counseling, discussing and planning the service with them and informing them of policies or guidelines established by the congregation on such matters as decorations, photography, and audio or video recording. Any leadership roles taken by other clergy should be at the invitation of the pastor of the church where the service is held. The organist or person in charge of the music should be consulted and work with the couple in all decisions on music selection.

Ethnic and cultural traditions are encouraged and may be incorporated into the service at the discretion of the pastor.

### CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

Any children of the man or the woman, other family, and friends may take a variety of roles in the service, depending on their ages and abilities. They may, for example, be members of the wedding party, participate in the Response of the Families and People, read scripture lessons, sing or play instrumental music, or make a witness in their own words.

In the case of couples who are not church members or are not prepared to make the Christian commitment expressed in our services, adaptations may be made at the discretion of the pastor.

## ENTRANCE

### GATHERING

While the people gather, instrumental or vocal music may be offered. Here and throughout the service, the use of music appropriate for Christian worship is strongly encouraged. During the entrance of the wedding party, there may be instrumental music or a hymn, a psalm, a canticle, or an anthem. The congregation may be invited to stand. The following processional hymns in UMH are suggested:

- 166 All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King  
Divine
- 559 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation
- 475 Come Down, O Love Divine
- 61 Come, Thou Almighty King
- 732 Come, We That Love the Lord
- 111 How Can We Name a Love

644 Jesus, Joy of Our Desiring  
 89 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee  
 93 Let All the World in Every Corner Sing  
 117 O God, Our Help in Ages Past  
 66 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven  
 96 Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above  
 139 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty  
 126 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above  
 90 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

The woman and the man, entering separately or together, now come forward with members of the wedding party. The woman and the man may be escorted by representatives of their families until they have reached the front of the church, or through the Response of the Families, at which time their escorts are seated.

## GREETING

Pastor to people:

Friends, we are gathered together in the sight of God  
 to witness and bless the joining together of Name and Name  
 in Christian marriage.

The covenant of marriage was established by God,  
 who created us male and female for each other.

With his presence and power

Jesus graced a wedding at Cana of Galilee,  
 and in his sacrificial love

gave us the example for the love of husband and wife.

Name and Name come to give themselves to one another  
 in this holy covenant.

## DECLARATION OF INTENTION

### DECLARATION BY THE MAN AND THE WOMAN

*Pastor to the persons who are to marry:*

I ask you now, in the presence of God and these people,  
 to declare your intention  
 to enter into union with each other  
 through the grace of Jesus Christ,  
 who calls you into union with himself  
 as acknowledged in your baptism.

*Pastor to the woman:*

*Name*, will you have *Name* to be your husband,  
 to live together in holy marriage?  
 Will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him,  
 in sickness and in health,  
 and forsaking all others, be faithful to him  
 as long as you both shall live?

Woman: **I will.**

*Pastor to the man:*

*Name*, will you have *Name* to be your wife,  
to live together in holy marriage?  
Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her,  
in sickness and in health,  
and forsaking all others, be faithful to her  
as long as you both shall live?

Man: **I will.**

## RESPONSE OF THE FAMILIES AND PEOPLE

*Pastor to people:*

The marriage of *Name* and *Name* unites their families  
and creates a new one.  
They ask for your blessing.

Parents and other representatives of the families may respond in one of the following ways:

**We rejoice in your union,  
and pray God's blessing upon you.**

*or, in reply to the pastor's question:*

Do you who represent their families  
rejoice in their union  
and pray God's blessing upon them?

**We do.**

*or, children of the couple may repeat these or similar words, prompted line by line, by the pastor:*

**We love both of you.  
We bless your marriage.  
Together we will be a family.**

*If the woman and the man have been escorted by representatives of their families, their escorts, having blessed the marriage in the name of their families, may be seated.*

*Pastor to people:*

Will all of you, by God's grace,  
do everything in your power  
to uphold and care for these two persons in their marriage?

People: **We will.**

## PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all peoples,  
you are the true light illumining everyone.  
You show us the way, the truth, and the life.

You love us even when we are disobedient.  
 You sustain us with your Holy Spirit.  
 We rejoice in your life in the midst of our lives.  
 We praise you for your presence with us,  
 and especially in this act of solemn covenant;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

*Other music may be offered before or after the readings.*

### *Suggested Scripture Lessons*

Genesis 1:26-28,31a The creation of man and woman  
 Song of Solomon 2:10-14, 16a ; 8:6-7 Love is strong as death.  
 Isaiah 43:1-7 You are precious in God's eyes.  
 Isaiah 55:10-13 You shall go out in joy.  
 Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Rejoice in the Lord.  
 Isaiah 63:7-9 The steadfast love of the Lord  
 Romans 12:1-2, 9-18 The life of a Christian  
 1 Corinthians 13 The greatest of these is love.  
 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 In Christ we are a new creation.  
 Ephesians 2:4-10 God's love for us  
 Ephesians 4:1-6 Called to the one hope  
 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 Members one of another  
 Philippians 2:1-2 The Christlike spirit  
 Philippians 4:4-9 Rejoice in the Lord.  
 Colossians 3:12-17 Live in love and thanksgiving.  
 1 John 3:18-24 Love one another.  
 1 John 4:7-16 God is love.  
 Revelation 19:1, 5-9a The wedding feast of the Lamb  
 Matthew 5:1-10 The Beatitudes  
 Matthew 7:21, 24-27 A house built upon a rock  
 Matthew 22:35-40 Love, the greatest commandment  
 Mark 2:18-22 Joy in Christ as at a wedding  
 Mark 10:42-45 True greatness  
 John 2:1-11 The marriage feast of Cana  
 John 15:9-17 Remain in Christ's love.

### *Suggested Hymns from UMH*

642 As Man and Woman We Were Made  
 451 Be Thou My Vision  
 158 Come, Christians, Join to Sing  
 164 Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life  
 695 O Lord, My Church and Home  
     Combine  
 645 O Perfect Love  
 408 The Gift of Love  
 138 The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
 643 When Love Is Found  
 549 Where Charity and Love Prevail  
 647 Your Love, O God, Has Called  
     Us Here

## SERMON OR OTHER WITNESS TO CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER \*

*An extemporaneous prayer may be offered, or the following may be prayed by the pastor or by all:*

Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all life,  
Author of salvation, Giver of all grace:  
Bless and sanctify with your Holy Spirit  
Name and Name, who come now to join in marriage.  
Grant that they may give their vows to each other  
in the strength of your steadfast love.  
Enable them to grow in love and peace  
with you and with one another all their days,  
that they may reach out  
in concern and service to the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE MARRIAGE

### EXCHANGE OF VOWS

*The woman and man face each other, joining hands. The pastor may prompt them, line by line.*

Man to woman:

**In the name of God,  
I, *Name*, take you, *Name*, to be my wife,  
to have and to hold  
from this day forward,  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
to love and to cherish,  
until we are parted by death.  
This is my solemn vow.**

Woman to man:

**In the name of God,  
I, *Name*, take you, *Name*, to be my husband,  
to have and to hold  
from this day forward,  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
to love and to cherish,  
until we are parted by death.  
This is my solemn vow.**

*In place of the vows given above, one of the following may be used:*

*I take you, Name, to be my wife (husband ),  
and I promise before God and all who are present here  
to be your loving and faithful husband (wife )  
as long as we both shall live.  
I will serve you with tenderness and respect,  
and encourage you to develop God's gifts in you.*

*Name, in the name of God,  
I take you to be my husband (wife ) from this time onward,  
to join with you and to share all that is to come,  
to give and to receive,  
to speak and to listen,  
to inspire and to respond,  
and in all our life together  
to be loyal to you with my whole being,  
as long as we both shall live.*

## BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS

*The exchange of rings is optional. Other tangible symbols may be given in addition to, or instead of, rings.*

*The pastor, taking the rings, may say one of the following:*

These rings (symbols )  
are the outward and visible sign  
of an inward and spiritual grace,  
signifying to us the union  
between Jesus Christ and his Church.

These rings (symbols )  
are the outward and visible sign  
of an inward and spiritual grace,  
signifying to all the uniting of *Name* and *Name* in holy marriage.

*The pastor may bless the giving of rings or other symbols of the marriage:*

Bless, O Lord, the giving of these rings (symbols ),  
that they who wear them may live in your peace  
and continue in your favor  
all the days of their life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*While placing the ring on the third finger of the recipient's left hand, the giver may say.*

***Name, I give you this ring  
as a sign of my vow,  
and with all that I am,  
and all that I have,  
I honor you;  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.***

*If a unity candle is used, the two side candles representing the husband and wife are lighted first, and the center candle representing the marriage is lighted at this or some later point in the service. The side candles are not extinguished because both husband and wife retain their personal identities.*

## DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE

*The wife and husband join hands. The pastor may place a hand on their joined hands.*

*Pastor to husband and wife:*

You have declared your consent and vows  
before God and this congregation.  
May God confirm your covenant  
and fill you both with grace.

*The couple may turn and face the congregation.*

Pastor to people:

Now that *Name* and *Name*  
have given themselves to each other by solemn vows,  
with the joining of hands,  
[and the giving and receiving of rings ,]

I announce to you that they are husband and wife;  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
Those whom God has joined together,  
let no one put asunder. Amen.

The congregation may be invited to stand, and a doxology or other hymn may be sung. The following hymns from UMH are suggested:

139 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty  
408 The Gift of Love  
643 When Love Is Found

## BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE \*

*The husband and wife may kneel, as the pastor prays:*

O God,  
you have so consecrated  
the covenant of Christian marriage  
that in it is represented  
the covenant between Christ and his Church.  
Send therefore your blessing upon *Name* and *Name*,  
that they may surely keep their marriage covenant,  
and so grow in love and godliness together  
that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*If Holy Communion is to be celebrated, the congregation turns to A Service of Word and Table III in UMH 15, or one of the musical settings ( UMH 17-25), and the service continues with the Thanksgiving and Communion (124-27). If Holy Communion is not to be celebrated, the service continues with the following Prayer of Thanksgiving:*

Most gracious God,  
 we give you thanks for your tender love  
 in making us a covenant people  
 through our Savior Jesus Christ  
 and for consecrating in his name  
 the marriage covenant of Name and Name .  
 Grant that their love for each other  
 may reflect the love of Christ for us  
 and grow from strength to strength  
 as they faithfully serve you in the world.  
 Defend them from every enemy.  
 Lead them into all peace.  
 Let their love for each other  
 be a seal upon their hearts,  
 a mantle about their shoulders,  
 and a crown upon their heads.  
 Bless them  
 in their work and in their companionship;  
 in their sleeping and in their waking;  
 in their joys and in their sorrows;  
 in their lives and in their deaths.  
 Finally, by your grace,  
 bring them and all of us to that table  
 where your saints feast for ever  
 in your heavenly home;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 who with you and the Holy Spirit  
 lives and reigns,  
 one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer, prayed by all, using one of the forms in UMH 270-71, 894-96. The wife and husband may continue to kneel.*

## SENDING FORTH

*Here may be sung a hymn or psalm. See suggestions above (116, 119, 122).*

### DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING \*

*Pastor to wife and husband:*

God the Eternal keep you in love with each other,  
 so that the peace of Christ may abide in your home.  
 Go to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do.

*Pastor to people:*

Bear witness to the love of God in this world,  
 so that those to whom love is a stranger

will find in you generous friends.  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all. Amen.

**THE PEACE \***

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And also with you.

*The couple may greet each other with a kiss and be greeted by the pastor, after which greetings may be exchanged through the congregation.*

**GOING FORTH \***

*A hymn may be sung or instrumental music played as the couple, the wedding party, and the people leave. The following recessional hymns in UMH are suggested:*

166 All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King  
Divine  
733 Come We That Love the Lord  
100 God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us  
89 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee  
384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling  
102 Now Thank We All Our God  
90 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones



## Wedding Information Form

### Davidsonville United Methodist Church

Please complete and return the following form to Pam Matousek, Church Secretary, Davidsonville United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 370, Davidsonville, MD 21035 along with your deposit check for \$325 (non member) .

<b>Wedding Date:</b>	<b>Wedding time:</b>	<b>Rehearsal Date:</b> <b>Time:</b>	<b>Place: (circle one) Sanctuary</b> <b>Green Cathedral (outdoor chapel)</b>
<b>Date formed returned</b>			
<b>Bride's Name:</b>			
<b>Bride's Address:</b>			
<b>Bride's Phone #:</b>	<b>Home:</b>	<b>Work:</b>	<b>e-mail;</b>
<b>Bride's Birth date:</b>			
<b>Groom's Name:</b>			
<b>Groom's Address:</b>			
<b>Groom's Phone #:</b>	<b>Home:</b>	<b>Work:</b>	<b>e-mail</b>
<b>Groom's Birth date:</b>			
<b>Parents of the Bride:</b>			
<b>Parents of the Groom:</b>			
<b>Anticipated number of wedding guests.</b>			
<b>Number included in the wedding party?</b>			
<b>Do you have any special requests?</b>			