

## **RUMPLE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WEDDING POLICIES**

### **Statement on Christian Marriage**

Weddings at Rumble Presbyterian Church are a Service of Worship and include most of the elements found in any worship service in this church. We believe that Christian marriage is a covenant between two people who are in covenant with God. Wedding policies shall, therefore, follow the criteria established by the Book of Order.

We are pleased that you are choosing to have your wedding at Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church. A wedding is a joyous and meaningful event in the life of your families and in the life of the church. To assist you in planning your ceremony and to provide for the sacredness of the service, we offer these guidelines and procedures for couples planning a Christian wedding at Rumble Church.

### **Who can marry at Rumble**

**A Rumble member or children and grandchildren of a member. In addition, a Rumble member can sponsor a non-member with whom they have a personal relationship. A different fee will apply for non-members.** For the purpose of the wedding policies, a member is defined as someone who has belonged to Rumble for one year or more.

### **Scheduling**

To schedule your wedding, contact the Church Office Manager, who, will consult with the Pastor, will check the church calendar, and make a tentative reservation of your date. Church members **need to return the Wedding Application before a reservation is put on the calendar.** **Non-members need to return the Wedding Application** and the sanctuary fee before the reservation is made. Since Rumble members and their children have priority in scheduling weddings, non-member weddings are not normally scheduled more than nine months in advance. Only one wedding per weekend will be scheduled . Only 2 non-member weddings per month will be scheduled. On Saturdays when “Art in the Park” occurs in the town of Blowing Rock, weddings are not permitted. Weddings will not be held on holidays.

### **Officiating Pastor**

**The Pastor or ministerial staff at Rumble will conduct all weddings. If you desire to have another pastor assist in the service, you must receive the prior approval of the session of Rumble Church.**

The Rumble Pastor will meet with you to plan the wedding service and to provide your pre-marital counseling sessions. You will need to contact the pastor to set up the first meeting at least three months before your wedding date.

### **Wedding Coordinator**

A Rumble wedding coordinator will be assigned to your wedding. She, along with the pastor, will conduct the rehearsal and the wedding. Your Rumble wedding coordinator will contact you after the receipt of your wedding application to schedule an initial meeting.

The wedding coordinator will inform the wedding party of all church regulations pertaining to the service and will coordinate the rehearsal and the wedding. Any outside bridal consultants will work under the direction of the Rumble church’s wedding coordinator and must follow all church policies.

## **Music**

Your wedding ceremony is a service of worship and special care should be taken to choose music that is sacred and suitable. The church does not allow recorded music for the ceremony. The selection of music sung or played shall be appropriate to the sacred nature of the wedding service of worship. Please contact your Rumble Wedding Coordinator to get the name of the accompanist and to make arrangements to meet for a thirty-minute music consultation. Samples of appropriate organ and piano music may be played during a music consultation. Other instrumental music may be planned during the consultation. The Director of Music or the Accompanist of Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church shall give final approval of all music, at least 30 days prior to your wedding date.

Ordinarily, Rumble Church's Accompanist plays for all weddings. If you wish to have another accompanist please notify your Rumble wedding coordinator or if Rumble's Accompanist is not available to play for your wedding, Rumble has a list of approved musicians on file.

## **Decorations and Equipment**

The stone sanctuary, completed in 1912, will accommodate 180 guests comfortably.

Please also observe these guidelines:

1. We encourage simplicity and a lack of ostentation in all decorations.
2. Birdseed, rice, or glitter are not to be used inside or outside the sanctuary.
3. Only dripless and smokeless candles are to be used in the sanctuary.
4. Nails may not be placed in the pews or window sills.
5. Chairs are not allowed to be set up in the front entrance (narthex) during the service.
6. Clear plastic must be placed under candles, candelabra or plant containers that could leak.
7. The Communion table is the only item that can be moved for the service. Decorations may not be placed on the piano or organ.
8. The couple is responsible for notifying the florist of all the above guidelines. Arrangements for decorating the church by the florist should be scheduled with your Rumble wedding coordinator and the Church Office Manager. The church's seasonal floral decorations (for Christmas and Easter) will remain as placed in the sanctuary. Rose petals are allowed by use by the flower girl only.
9. All decorations must be removed as soon as the guests have left the building unless the flowers will be left for the Sunday service. If borrowed or rented equipment is used, it is the family's responsibility to see that it is returned immediately after the wedding.

## **Photography and Video Taping**

1. Pictures may be taken before and after the ceremony but are not allowed during the service. Photographers are not allowed to go down the aisles to take pictures of the wedding party as they enter the sanctuary, except at the last pew in the back of the church. Silent cameras are encouraged.
2. Please inform your guests of this policy. You may wish to include the statement, "No photographs (including cell phones) during the service, please" in your program.
3. Videotaping, if done discreetly and approved by the wedding coordinator is allowed. A camera may be placed on a tripod in the choir loft and left in place during the entire service. The camera is to be turned on 45 minutes before the service begins and then left alone until the end of the service. No flash or extra lights are to be used during the taping of the wedding service.

4. Flash photography is not allowed (by either professional photographer or guests) from the time guests begin to arrive until after the recessional.
5. All photographers and videographers will work under the direction of the Rumble wedding coordinator and should be made aware of the church's photography and video policies. It is the responsibility of whomever is employing the photographer/videographer to relay the church's policy. No exception to this policy will be allowed
6. Live streaming of the ceremony is an option, for an additional fee. All details need to be worked out with the Rumble wedding coordinator.

### **Other Guidelines**

The use of alcohol and tobacco are not allowed on church property nor in any church building at any time.

Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church will work hard to insure your special day is as issue free as possible. If there are any outside factors, such as weather, that are beyond the control of Rumble, we will work with you to come up with a suitable replacement time.

The Rumble Wedding Application needs to be completed and return with the deposit to the Rumble Office Manager who will be the initial contact. Once your wedding has been approved, you will be notified and a Wedding Coordinator will be assigned your wedding. The wedding will not be confirmed until all paperwork is returned with deposit. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to inform all outside vendors of Rumples policy and have them sign off on said policies.