

Weddings at the First Unitarian Church of Alton Frequently Asked Questions

Accessibility: The entire main floor of the church building is accessible for persons with disabilities. Hearing assistance devices are also available.

Aisle runners: Aisle runners may be used but they are not necessary, unless real flower petals – which can be smashed into the carpet, leaving stains -- are to be strewn by the flower girl.

Alcoholic beverages: No alcoholic beverages may be served at weddings/receptions hosted by non-church members.

Availability: The availability of the facility is dependent on the availability of the minister. The minister of the First Unitarian Church of Alton performs all weddings/civil unions held at the church.

Cancellation policy: If the wedding couple cancels more than 30 days prior to the event the deposit check will be returned.

Damages: The wedding couple is responsible for any and all damage caused by use of the facility as well as preserving the premises and space in good order and condition. Waste paper and trash should be disposed of in the trash containers provided in the fellowship hall and kitchen.

Decorations: The sanctuary and/or fellowship hall may be decorated at a time convenient to the wedding couple and the church's wedding coordinator. Bulletin boards and church wall decorations will remain in place. No furniture is to be rearranged without prior approval from the wedding coordinator. Decorations may be added to the pews, wall sconces, and windowsills. No tape may be used to fasten decorations (ribbons, flowers, etc.) in place. All decorations must be attached in such a manner as to do no damage.

Flowers: Live or silk flowers may be used in decorating the sanctuary and/or fellowship hall.

Madison County, Illinois Government Center in Edwardsville IL.

Madison County Illinois Government Center
Administration Building
Office of the County Clerk
Room 109
157 North Main Street
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025
(618) 692-6200

Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday (closed holidays). The couple must arrive at least 30 minutes before the office closes.

License Fee: \$20 Cash Only

- An Illinois marriage license must be obtained at least one day prior to the wedding and is good for 60 days
- Individuals must be 18 years of age or older to be married without parental consent
- Photo I. D. is required
- Blood test not required in Illinois.

Download [information and a State of Illinois Marriage Application & Record](#) prepared by the Madison County Illinois County Clerk

Disclaimer: Although all information about Illinois Marriage Licenses is believed to be correct at the time of publication, accuracy and completeness are not guaranteed. Please contact the appropriate legal authorities including the Madison Illinois County Clerk's office for more information.

Music: The church has an organ and a piano, and the wedding couple may bring in their own musicians. A CD player is also available if live music is not desired.

Nursery: If many small children or infants are expected at the ceremony, a nursery room is available. The wedding couple is responsible for obtaining and paying for a nursery attendant.

Parking: There is a parking lot across the street from the church. In addition, street parking is available on three sides of the church building and additional street parking within two blocks of the building.

Photographs: Decisions regarding photography/videography are left up to the wedding couple in consultation with the minister and the wedding coordinator.

Reception in Kate Wuerker Room: Four hours are allowed for use of the Kate Wuerker Room, including set-up and clean up. All guests must have exited the building by 10:00 p.m.

Rehearsal: The time for a rehearsal must be scheduled with the minister and the church's wedding coordinator. Two hours are allowed for a rehearsal.

Rice and Confetti: Nothing may be thrown inside the church building. Nothing harmful to wildlife (e.g., regular rice) or messy (e.g., confetti or marshmallows) may be thrown outside. Acceptable outdoor substitutes are bubbles, birdseed, or environmentally safe puffed wedding rice.

Seating capacity: Sanctuary: 125 comfortably; additional chairs may be added.
Wuerker Room: 75 to 80 seated at tables

Smoking: The church building is a smoke-free facility.

Unity candle: The lighting of a unity candle may be included in the ceremony. The wedding couple is responsible for supplying the needed candles.

Wedding: The ceremony is planned in consultation with the wedding/civil union coordinator and the minister. Four hours of building use are allowed for the wedding/civil union.

Wedding: A platform for the wedding/civil union couple to stand on during the ceremony in front of the pulpit area is available and is found in Emerson Place.