

November 8, 2023

## Rural United Pastoral Charge Marriage Statement Policy

St. Paul's-Victoria Avenue, St. John's Botany, Turin

[www.ruralunited.com](http://www.ruralunited.com)

The Rural United Pastoral Charge welcomes all who apply to the called/appointed minister(s) of the Pastoral Charge to be married in a Christian ceremony; who are committed to their relationship to each other, to God and who are eligible to be legally married in Ontario. Requests will be considered for approval by our minister(s) in consultation with the appropriate session of the Pastoral Charge. The wedding will be arranged with the minister(s) of the Rural United Pastoral Charge. At her/his discretion the minister(s) may invite others to take part in the service. The couple is required to enter into and successfully complete a marriage program approved or recommended by our minister(s).

## Guidelines

This information is provided for the general guidance of those wishing to be married in the Church. May your new relationship be deeply enriched in the constant Presence of God.

1. The couple is required to meet with the minister(s).
2. It will be the responsibility of the wedding party to leave the church in the same state as before the wedding, i.e. any decorations provided by the wedding party are to be removed following the ceremony.
3. No confetti, floral petals, or bird seed inside the church. Bubbles can be used outside the church only.
4. No smoking or alcohol on church property.
5. Photographs may not be taken during the actual marriage ceremony but there are other appropriate times for pictures. The photographer must consult the officiating minister for clear instructions. Video cameras may be used without lights and the videographer to remain stationary.
6. Candelabra are available for use at St. Paul's-Victoria Avenue and Turin. Each couple would have the responsibility to purchase their own candles.
7. Marriage Candles can also be used and provided by the couple.
8. Wedding bulletins may be used. The church office will print and prepare the bulletin if the couple desires. A fee of \$25.00 will be charged to cover the cost of the paper.
9. Weddings at Outdoor Locations – A reminder that outdoor weddings should have a backup plan in case of rain, wind etc. The same wedding fees apply to services held on the property. The church may be used as a backup if you wish.

Rural United Pastoral Charge. Please feel free to discuss any matters that relate to your marriage and /or details of its arrangements. We want it to be an event enjoyed and remembered by all who participate.

## Fees

The fees for the church personnel assisting with the wedding are as follows:

*Confirmation for use of the Church* – \$125.00 - The confirmation fee is non – refundable as it holds the date and time specifically for the wedding.

*Minister* - \$200.00

*Custodian* – \$75.00

*Pianist/Organist* - \$175.00 – includes prior consultation. Permission must be granted by the Church organist in order for the wedding party to engage another organist of their choice. The organist should be consulted at least one month prior to the ceremony.

### Ministers

Rev. Martin Mwale 226 626 8903 [mbusamartin@yahoo.com](mailto:mbusamartin@yahoo.com)

### Secretaries

Gail Scott - 519-352-0464 [gscott@ciaccess.com](mailto:gscott@ciaccess.com)

Carol Verstraete – 519-678-9994 [hmtuc@yahoo.ca](mailto:hmtuc@yahoo.ca)

Policy and Guidelines approved by Joint Session Members , November 8 , 2023