

La Plata United Methodist Church

Board of Trustees

No Alcohol at Weddings Policy

The United Methodist Church has had a long history of opposing the consumption of alcohol. Methodists were at the forefront of the Temperance Movement in the early 20th Century, and still to this day has a very strict NO alcohol standard for all church activities, for community activities held in its churches, and for all events at Methodist churches or on its property.

Therefore, if you choose to have your wedding here at La Plata United Methodist Church, you agree not to bring any alcoholic beverages onto the church property; you agree to tell your bridal party members, your parents and all family members and your guests that alcohol is strictly prohibited. You are not to drink any alcohol on the day of your wedding prior to the ceremony, not even at home or at the hotel. Once you have left the church, and you are in the limousine or at the reception, consumption of alcohol is then at your discretion.

If you plan to have your reception at the church, the same rules apply for the entire guest list and bridal party. There will not be any alcohol consumed at the church in any form. All receptions held at the church will be alcohol-free.

If there is evidence that the bride or the groom have been drinking prior to the service, the ceremony WILL NOT be held. The pastor is prohibited from performing a sacred marriage ceremony if one or both of the partners are in any way impaired by alcohol consumption. One cannot legally enter into a lifelong commitment of this importance and magnitude if he/she is under the influence of alcohol.

If the groom or bride is still “hung over” from the evening before’s festivities, and is not clear-headed and clear-eyed, the pastor cannot perform the marriage ceremony. It will be a great embarrassment to you and to your parents to have all your family and friends gather, and then discover that because of alcohol the ceremony cannot take place.

If alcohol is detected by the pastor or the wedding coordinator, and the wedding is stopped or cancelled due to the presence of alcohol, there will be no refunds of payments made to the church or any of its staff.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have received this policy and understand it fully.

Groom

Bride

Pastor

Date