

# *Watoto*

## **WEDDING GUIDELINES 2021**

### 1. To book your Wedding day:

- (a) Pick up your booking forms at least **six (6)** months in advance from the administrator at your Watoto Celebration Point.
- (b) Complete and submit it to your church Administrator. Your wedding date, venue and time are now pre-booked.
- (c) Pay the **WEDDING FEES** (at least 2 (two months) to the wedding date and obtain a receipt/ proof of payment. This now **CONFIRMS** your booking.

### 2. **To prepare you for marriage,**

Couples will have;

- (i) **Group Pre-Marital Counselling Classes:** The classes which constitute **ten (10)** sessions on a published schedule, create a vibrant peer-learning experience with other couples going through marriage preparation in the same season.
- (ii) Couples must atleast complete four (4) **(Mandatory)** counselling sessions conducted by the Pastor or church-assigned mentors as need be. (This can be online if either party is upcountry or abroad).

### 3. **To comply with the Law:**

- (a) Intending couples will be introduced before the Watoto Church Congregation at least 2 months before their confirmed wedding date on the third (3rd) Sunday of the month.
- (b) (Marriage Banns will be published in accordance with the Laws of Uganda, one (1) month to the confirmed wedding date.

Points 3a and b above also apply to Watoto congregants intending to wed at another church or a specially gazetted venue.

#### 4. To plan your wedding ceremony:

- (a) We have available for your convenience with the church administrator, an Order of Service template for weddings conducted at Watoto. This is made available upon confirmation of wedding dates.
- (b) The Worship & Creative Arts Office is on hand to assist the couple select the appropriate music and any special features like scripture readings by friends/family, poetry etc at least two (2) weeks to the confirmed wedding date.
- (c) Any digital media for the wedding needs to be submitted to the Worship & Creative Arts Office at least two (2) weeks before the confirmed wedding date.
- (d) Wedding Rehearsals must be held with the entire bridal entourage within the last week to the confirmed wedding date.

#### 5. To wed you outside Watoto's gazetted premises:

Watoto is happy to conduct your wedding provided;

- i. You have secured the appropriate license from the Attorney General's office for the venue.
- ii. You have paid the stipulated fees necessary to confirm your wedding date in time.

#### 6. Special Cases...

- (a) Couples who have been living together unwed may apply to be wedded in accordance with these guidelines.
- (b) Couples who already have a legally registered marriage may apply to have a Christian wedding ceremony in accordance with these guidelines to the extent that their pastor may deem appropriate.
- (c) Couples from other churches may be wedded at Watoto in accordance with these guidelines to the extent that their assigned Watoto pastor may deem appropriate.

(d) Watoto Church does not, under any circumstances, re-wed persons who have divorced.

**Disclaimer**

- (a) The Watoto Church Pastoral Team reserves the right to waive any of the conditions stipulated in these Wedding Guidelines (Except 6d).
- (b) Watoto Church may from time to time and without prior notice revisit and update these Wedding Guidelines.

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