# Weddings at Avonlea, Sanford and Starbuck churches

We are happy that you have chosen to have your wedding through our church. All weddings must be approved by the Church board. We ask that you contact either contact for the local church or the minister to arrange the booking of the Church. In cases where weddings are to be held outside of the Church building please book directly with the minister.

We ask that you take part in marriage preparation classes with the minister prior to your wedding. This will mean that you will meet with the minister between three and six times prior to your wedding. This will include both the marriage preparation classes as well as planning your service.

It is the policy of the United Church that weddings held within a congregation be presided over by the minister of that congregation. If you are interested in having another minister take part in your service

#### Music:

All three of our congregations have musicians who can be contacted to play for your wedding. You are also more than welcome to bring in your own musician(s), or you may use taped music for your service. The minister will discuss such arrangements with you at your first meeting.

The minister will discuss musical selections with you at your first meeting.

### **Decorating the Church:**

The Church may be decorated prior to the service at the rehearsal. All decorations must be taken down after the service, unless other arrangements have been made with the church caretaker.

### Day of the Weddings:

The use of confetti, bird seed and rice is not allowed inside our church building or on the church grounds. It is not only difficult to clean up, some are ecologically unsound. We would encourage the use of bubbles or flower petals outside only.

Both photographers and videographers are permitted to be at the service. The

minister will discuss the appropriate set up space for the video camera, and the places in the service in which flash photographs may be taken.

## **Marriage License:**

The marriage licence legally, may be purchased up to three months and at least 24 hrs prior to the wedding.

It may be purchased at any Jewellery store. We ask that the license be given to the minister at least one month prior to the service. The Church will issue a marriage certificate. You may apply for a copy of the license from the Government of Manitoba.