

## YOUR JOYFUL WEDDING CEREMONY OVERVIEW

- IN ADVANCE**
- \* Contact me to confirm the availability of your date.
  - \* Send deposit.
  - \* Work with me to create your personal ceremony.
  - \* Choose processional, recessional, and other music for the ceremony.
  - \* Invite special people to participate in the ceremony (if desired)
  - \* Set a rehearsal time and place.
  - \* Purchase your marriage license (no more than 90 days in advance).
  - \* Think about seating and family dynamics. Where do you want your parents? Grandparents? Special friends?
  - \* Determine who will sign as witnesses on your marriage license and when that will be completed.
- AT THE REHEARSAL**
- \* Make sure everyone who has a role in the ceremony is present, including parents, readers, attendants, ushers, singers, friends who will be handling logistics, and any other participants
  - \* Allow enough time for us to do a thorough job, factoring in the inevitable late arrival, last-minute snafu, and uncooperative flower girl or ring bearer. An hour is usually ample.
  - \* When rehearsals must take place somewhere other than the ceremony site, we'll recreate some of the details of the actual site so that everyone feels comfortable at the wedding.
  - \* Speak with ushers about where and when to seat special guests.
  - \* Make a detailed checklist of what will need to be brought to the wedding site on your wedding day. If you choose to delegate, be clear and specific about that person's responsibilities.
  - \* Bring the remainder of my fee.
  - \* Rehearsals are often where people's nerves show up. I've witnessed tears, tempers, and silliness. Bring a camera to capture it all.
- ON THE BIG DAY**
- \* I generally arrive about 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the ceremony. This makes it possible for me to connect with you and your fiancé, to answer last minute questions of attendants and family members, to reassure little ones, to check on preparations, and to meet the photographer and/or videographer, musicians or DJ, and other participants.
  - \* After the ceremony, I stay for a short time to complete the marriage license (if it wasn't a part of the ceremony itself), take photos, and thank you both for allowing me to be part of your special day.
- AFTER THE WEDDING**
- \* Relax and enjoy your reception.
  - \* I will mail your signed and completed marriage license to the courthouse within one or two business days. Or you may return it yourselves to speed the process of getting the necessary paperwork for changing your name. It **MUST** be returned within 10 days of the ceremony or the marriage is not valid.
  - \* Request a notarized marriage certificate from the courthouse to keep with your important documents. (It is not mailed out automatically.)
  - \* Please consider writing a review about your experience working with me, and share your favorite photos. I would love to include one or two on my website, displays, and in my literature for other couples to enjoy.