About Wed Me Dee



I believe that every couple's love story is unique and deserving of a personalized celebration. As an experienced officiant, I, Daneen "Dee", am honored to guide you through the most important day of your life, ensuring that your wedding day is a reflection of your love and values. With a deep understanding of the significance of this milestone, I work closely with each couple to craft a meaningful ceremony that captures the essence of your relationship. From the selection of heartfelt vows to the incorporation of cultural traditions, my goal is to create an unforgettable experience that will be cherished for a lifetime.

Whether you envision an intimate gathering or a grand celebration, I am here to help make your dream wedding a reality. With a commitment to personalized service and attention to detail, I will guide you through the planning process, ensuring that every aspect of your ceremony is tailored to your unique preferences.

As an officiant with extensive experience, I have the privilege of witnessing the love and joy that radiates from each couple I work with. It is my passion to create a ceremony that not only reflects your story but also inspires your guests to celebrate the beauty of your union.

Many couples I work with describe themselves as "Spiritual, but not religious." Some couples do not practice any faith path, but want a ceremony that is warm, romantic, meaningful, and focuses on their love for each other as partners in life. I honor all faiths and respect your personal beliefs. Whether your ceremony is civil, spiritual, traditional, non-denominational, modern, romantic, serious, or silly, it's your ceremony and your day, I will listen closely and honor your requests. As your wedding officiant, I am here to answer your questions, provide creative or traditional ceremony ideas, and support you on your wedding day. Your love has brought you to this day - I am honored to be in your presence and share this journey with you.



I am Daneen Harrison or as most friends call me "Dee". Since 2016, I have been a non-denominational Ordained Minister through the Universal Life Church. I began this journey when one of my best friends asked me to officiate their wedding. After that wedding, more friends asked, and their friends asked and I quickly realized how much I enjoyed officiating weddings!

I officiate weddings in NY, NJ, CT. Whether your attendants are lots of family and friends, an intimate celebration with your kids and pets, or just the two of you, I will do my best to make your wedding day peaceful and joyful. No one can promise a perfect day, but I do promise personal diligence.

Taking the first step towards your dream ceremony is easy! Schedule a free, no-obligation consultation with me to discuss your vision and answer any questions you might have.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Warm regards, Officiant - Daneen Harrison "Dee"



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# Packages



# "I Do"

A simple, less than 10 minute-long Ceremony administering the Oath of Marriage.

With short vows, say "I Do", Quick exchange of rings and a kiss.

This is a basic civil type of Ceremony.

This is not appropriate for a "Formal Venue" wedding.

It is designed for a small at-home or park ceremony with just a few guests.

Starting as \$225



# "Simply Sweet"

This is the most popular, traditional, less than 20 minute-long Ceremony.

This is for couples who want a Simple yet Sweet Ceremony experience. There is no customization on this package.

With simple Vows, say "I Do", Ring Exchange and a kiss, this is appropriate for a "Formal Venue" wedding.

It is designed for any venue with any amount of guests.

Starting at \$375



# "Our Love Story"

This Ceremony is for couples who want a more personalized, 30-40 minute-long Ceremony.

In this Ceremony, this is your love story; vision for married life; family/cultural traditions; and/or any favorite poetry to create the most memorable ceremony experience ever.

You can choose from an alternate selection of vows, add on wedding ceremony ideas, create your own love story, include any readings you wish or incorporate anything else you have always imagined.

We will work together to design something even more personal than the traditional Simply Sweet Ceremony.

It is designed for any venue with any number of guests.

Starting at \$500



Initial phone or online consultation is always free. There is no obligation.

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# Package Details



# "I Do"

- A quick Civil or Elopement ceremony Approx. 10 Minutes
- Semi-private ceremony (the couple and up to 6 guests)
- Arriving 15 minutes prior to ceremony start time
- Administer the oath of marriage
- Ring Exchange
- Sign and First-Class mailing (with tracking) of the marriage license
- Travel to the Ceremony venue\*
- Upon request, presence at the rehearsal\*\*
- 2-3 Meetings on the phone, via Zoom, Whats App or Google Meet.
- Contract for Services includes:
   Pre Ceremony Questionnaire,
   Ceremony Planner Checklist,
   Samples of Vows,
   Introductions, Readings, Songs,
   template to fill in your wording for the day of the ceremony
   and a To Do List before the I
   Do's reminder.
- Personalized Certificate of Marriage



# "Simply Sweet"

- Most Popular Package Approx.
   20 Minutes
- Semi-private ceremony (the couple and up to 50 guests)
- Arriving 30 minutes prior to ceremony start time
- Coordinating with ceremony Coordinator about ceremony details
- Review the couples vows
- Officiating the ceremony on your special day
- Sign and First-Class mailing (with tracking) of the marriage license
- Travel to the Ceremony venue\*
- Upon request, presence at the rehearsal\*\*
- 2-4 Meetings on the phone, via Zoom, Whats App or Google Meet.
- Contract for Services includes:
   Pre Ceremony Questionnaire,
   Ceremony Planner Checklist,
   Samples of Vows, Introductions,
   Readings, Songs, template to fill in your wording for the day of the ceremony and a To Do List before the I Do's reminder.
- Personalized Certificate of Marriage.



# "Our Love Story"

- Most Popular Customizable Package Approx. 30 Minutes
- Usually a private-formal wedding
- A fully customized ceremony
- Arriving 30-45 minutes prior to ceremony start time
- Coordinating with ceremony Coordinator about ceremony details.
- Review the couples vows and fine-tune the ceremony to perfection.
- Arriving 30-45 minutes prior to ceremony start time.
- Sign and First-Class mailing (with tracking) of the marriage license.
- Presence at the rehearsal.
- Travel to the Ceremony venue.\*
- 3-6 Meetings on the phone, via Zoom, Whats App or Google Meet.
- Contract for Services includes: Pre Ceremony Questionnaire, Ceremony Planner Checklist, Samples of Vows, Introductions, Readings, Songs, template to fill in your wording for the
- day of the ceremony and a To Do List before the I Do's reminder.
- Personalized Certificate of Marriage.



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# Vow Renewal \$300

A vow renewal is a ceremony of celebration and recommitment where a married couple reaffirms their marriage vows to each other. Because this isn't a legally binding ceremony, the way that a wedding ceremony is, there really aren't any hard-and-fast rules about how to renew your vows—the sky is the limit!

- Approx. 20 Minutes
- Arriving 15 minutes prior to ceremony start time
- · Renewal of vows
- Ring Exchange
- Travel to the Ceremony venue\*
- · Meetings are usually on the phone, via Zoom or Teams

Deposit & Final Payment: The non-refundable booking fee is \$150. Cash, Zelle, money order or cashier's checks are accepted. The deposit is required to reserve your ceremony date, and is credited toward any ceremony package you choose. The balance payment is due no later than 60 days prior to the ceremony date. If the ceremony is booked less than 1 month prior to the start date, 100% payment is due at the time of booking and is nonrefundable. Details are included in "Contract for Services" provided at the time of booking.

\*Travel Fees: Travel to the Rehearsal and/or ceremony location beyond 30 miles from zip code 10604 incurs an additional travel fee: 31-100 miles \$75, 101-150 miles \$125. Anything over 150 miles TBD.

- If there are any bridges, tunnels or tolls that require payment, the Client is responsible for paying the additional fees.
- If the Client selects a venue that does not offer free parking, the Client is responsible for either validating or paying for the Officiant's
  parking.

\*\*Rehearsal Fee: For an additional fee of \$75, I will meet you at the ceremony location or another location and run through the rehearsal. No additional rehearsal fee if you book the "Our Love Story" ceremony. I can provide you with a free Ceremony Rehearsal Guide to help you decide.

Preferred Holidays Fee: There is an additional \$125 fee if the Ceremony event occurs on the following Federal Holidays: Memorial Day and Weekend, Fourth of July and Weekend, Labor Day and Weekend, Thanksgiving Day and Weekend, Christmas Eve and Day, New Year's Eve and Day. "Weekend" is defined as Saturday, Sunday, and/or Monday.

Delay Fee: An additional \$25 per half hour fee occurs when the ceremony starts at least 1/2 hour after the Ceremony start time.

Refund Policy Client: The booking fee is non-refundable once the date is booked. If the Client must change the date or time of the ceremony it will be rescheduled to the new date or time if it is available for the Officiant. If the Clients new date or time is not available for the Officiant, the change will be considered a cancellation and the Client will forfeit the deposit. For cancellations within 14 days of the ceremony date, there will be no refund, 100% of the payment will be forfeited and the Officiant is relieved of all responsibilities set forth in the signed contract.

Refund Policy Venue: If the Event location (the "Venue") cancels the ceremony for whatever reason, the Client is responsible to find a new venue on that date. If that date is not available, and there is no date that Client and Officiant can agree upon due to availability, there will be no refund, and 100% of the payment will be forfeited and the Officiant is relieved of all responsibilities set forth in the signed contract.

Refund Policy Officiant: If the Officiant cancels the ceremony, the Client will receive a 100% refund on all payments made. In the event the Officiant is unable to attend and perform the services as planned due to hospitalization, auto accident, transportation breakdown or disruption, traffic difficulties or other unforeseen incapacitation on the day of the ceremony, the Officiant will provide a 100% refund. Deposit is transferable to another date and time, as long as the Officiant is available. If the Officiant is not available on the new date and/or time, all fees including the Deposit will be refunded upon request and the Officiant is relieved of all responsibilities set forth in the signed contract.

All Cancellations must be confirmed in writing, no exceptions!

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# Q1. What is considered a "Ceremony"?

A ceremony is a semi-private, private, casual or formal event held on special occasions, aka Weddin & Vow renewals.



# O2. What does "Officiant" mean?

Someone who is legally authorized to preside over/perform a couple's Ceremony.

#### O3. What kind of Officiant am I?

Modern nondenominational minister/civil Officiant. "Officiants" are known and called by many different names: wedding Officiant, wedding minister, wedding officiator, marriage officiator, marriage minister, marriage Officiant, marriage official, wedding clergy, marriage clergy, wedding celebrant, celebrant, justice of the peace, JP, civil Officiant and reverend. I am legally ordained through the Universal Life Church.

# O4. What is the Universal Life Church?

The <u>Universal Life Church & ULC Seminary, Inc.</u>, is a non-denominational church that believes that we are all spirits in bodies, seeking and discovering our own personal truth in our own unique way. We believe in religious freedom, as long as it does not infringe on the rights of others and is within the law.

# Q5. Where can you legally perform a Ceremony?

Anywhere in the State of CT, NJ, NY and I am registered in NYC - Officiant # 3205924.. See my NY Marriage License Information page for NY City and State Guidelines.

# Q6. What type of ceremonies do you perform?

While the ceremonies are non-denominational, they are designed to meet the couples' individual needs. Some of the various types of ceremonies are:

- Civil/Traditional: A Civil ceremony is a marriage performed, recorded, and recognized by a government official such as
  an Officiant and is recognized by the state. A civil ceremony is the most common and allows a couple to include special
  readings, vows, symbols and wedding themes that may not be included in a religious ceremony. A civil ceremony often
  does not contain religious elements; however, it is completely up to the couple. A civil ceremony can take place in the
  venue of your choice. A traditional ceremony includes the wedding ceremony and a wedding reception that usually
  features speeches, dancing, a meal and time to spend with guests. They can be held in churches, at beaches, museums,
  gardens, resorts or any number of places.
- Interfaith: Interfaith ceremony, sometimes called interreligious marriage or "mixed marriage", is marriage between spouses professing different religions. An interfaith ceremony is an ideal solution for couples that have different spiritual, religious or cultural backgrounds.
- Non-traditional: A non-traditional ceremony is one where the couple doesn't follow the traditional order of things. For example, they may have their wedding party walk down the aisle in a different order than usual, have your dog or cat carry the wedding rings, or they may not exchange vows during the ceremony. You may or may not have religious overtones and you will most likely add your own flavor to this type of ceremony.
- Non-denominational: A non-denominational ceremony has no association with a religious denomination. It can contain elements of traditional, non-traditional, spiritual, interfaith and/or civil ceremonies.
- Same-Sex: Ceremony between partners of the same sex and/or gender identity.
- Domestic Partner or Commitment Blessings: A domestic partnership is an arrangement in which two people live
  together and are in a committed relationship without being legally married. It shares many of the same benefits as being
  married. Domestic partnerships are composed of two people of any gender, which includes male, female, or nonbinary
  people.
- Vow Renewal: A vow renewal is a celebratory ceremony during which a married couple reaffirms their commitment to one another. They are especially popular on milestone anniversaries (10, 25, or 50 years), but there's no rule that says you have to wait to have one.

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O&A Continued

# Q7. Can you conduct the ceremony outside of a house of worship?

YES, because I am a non-denominational Officiant. I can perform ceremonies everywhere and there are no restrictions.



# Q8. Can I write my own vows?

YES, of course you can; I feel that your ceremony should have special meaning to you.

# Q9. Are there things that you will not do, mention, etc.?

I do not ask if anyone objects! This dates back to another era, and nobody really says, "Speak now or forever hold your peace" anymore. Many couples ask me about old-fashioned elements of a wedding ceremony like "honor and obey" in the vows, using the words like "man and wife" (as opposed to "husband and wife") and asking the father's permission for the bride's hand. Remember, this is your ceremony, and we will only say and do what is most comfortable and meaningful to you.

# Q10. Will you be doing other weddings that day?

During wedding season, it is possible that I'll have another ceremony. In order to avoid the possibility of running late, I never have two weddings that start within several hours of each other.

# Q11. What if the bride or groom are running late?

If you are running behind more than 30 minutes of the contracted start time, additional fees of \$25 per half hour will apply. This fee must be paid in full prior to my mailing out your signed Marriage Certificate for processing.

# Q12. What if I forget the marriage license the day of the wedding?

If possible, send someone to get it.

# O13. What if the license is too far away to go get it?

You and I will figure this out. We can do this after the ceremony one way or another. It may mean that your best friend Jill and your Uncle Peter will not be your witnesses, someone else will. The upside is that you will have two anniversaries.

# 014. When do you sign the marriage license-at the end of the ceremony or beforehand?

Always after the ceremony, it takes no more than 5 minutes.

# O15. Do you allow pictures during the Ceremony?

YES, of course! I have heard that some ministers can be touchy about when and how pictures are taken during the Ceremony. Your photographer and videographer can shoot whenever and however they would like. I do ask that you provide me with one copy of a photo for my memory book.

# O16. I know we tip other vendors, but what about the Officiant?

Gratuities are never expected but are always appreciated.

### O17. How soon can I get married after we receive the marriage license?

You must wait a full 24 hours before your Ceremony can be performed unless you obtain a Judicial Waiver. Note: Please review the NYS Supreme Court information regarding availability of judicial waiver.

### **Q18.** How long is the license valid?

A marriage license is valid for 60 calendar days, beginning the day after it is issued. If a party to the marriage is active U.S. military, the solemnization period may be extended to 180 calendar days. The applicant must provide proof to the issuing clerk at the time of application.

# Q19. What is the difference between Vows and Ring Exchange?

Vows are your promises to one another, while the ring exchange is when you give each other your wedding bands and say your chosen wording. Some couples choose to combine their ring exchange in their vows, while others opt to do these separately. It's the biggest part of the day and both are optional.

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O&A Continued

# Q20. What if I have to change my start time or ceremony date?

While I try to be as flexible as possible in accommodating changes, I cannot guarantee my availability for a date or time change. Please let me know as soon as possible if you plan to change your wedding date or time so I can try to find a solution for you.

# Q21. What if I Cancel my wedding, is the deposit refundable?

Unfortunately, no, the deposit is nonrefundable because I was holding a secured date for you and there is no guarantee that I will rebook the date.

# Q22. Will you come to our wedding rehearsal?

Yes, for an additional fee. I contract ceremony rehearsals separately from weddings because most couples don't want (or need) an Officiant at the rehearsal. If you have a wedding coordinator at the wedding rehearsal you are simply practicing walking in and walking out, but not the ceremony itself. If you book the "Our Love Story" Package, I will attend the rehearsal for no additional rehearsal fee but travel fees may apply.

# Q23. If I still want you to do my rehearsal can I book it now?

Yes, you should book the rehearsal at the same time as you book the wedding date. There is no guarantee that I may be available on your rehearsal date if it is not booked at the same time.

# Q24. Do I need any Witnesses at my ceremony?

Yes, for a Legal Marriage, you and your prospective spouse must have at least one witness, who must be 18 years of age or over. The witness or witnesses must bring proper identification. Witnesses must be provided by the Client.

# Q25. Is a premarital physical exam required?

No premarital examination or blood test is required to obtain a marriage license in New York State.

# Q26. How do I get a Judicial waiver for a marriage in NYC?

Both petitioners (Husband and Wife - to be) have to be present and produce the marriage license. The petition is filled out explaining the need for obtaining the waiver. It is then signed by both petitioners in the presence of the clerk. You can request a Judicial Waiver from the County Clerk in the borough where you obtained your Marriage License. There is no fee. You must give the Judicial Waiver to your Marriage Officiant to enable them to perform the ceremony within the 24-hour waiting period.

### 027. Are you getting married in another country - you may need a Certificate of Non-Impediment?

If you intend to marry in another country, you may be required to obtain a Certificate of Non-Impediment and submit it with the foreign Civil Registry Office along with other documents (U.S. passport, birth certificate, application for marriage etc.). A Certificate of Non-Impediment is an official Certification issued in confirmation that the City Clerk's Office has no information that it would be an "impediment" to your getting a Marriage License in the City of New York or any other city if the U.S. If a Certificate of Non-impediment to marriage is available, it is produced in the City Clerk's office and you can obtain it in person. Usually, a fee is applied. To qualify for a Certificate of Non-Impediment, you must provide proof that you reside within a city (including the City of New York) and must not presently be married. Visit the Certificate of Non-Impediment section of the Office of the City Clerk Web site.

# Q28. How to Obtain Your Extended and/or Apostilled Marriage Certificate

If you're an international couple deciding to get married in the states and want to make sure your marriage paperwork is legally binding in your country. Depending on where you are geographically, you might hear that you need either an extended marriage certificate or an 'apostilled' marriage certificate to get everything in order.

## IMPORTANT WEBSITES FOR OBTAINING YOUR NYC OR NY STATE MARRIAGE LISCENCE

- Getting Married in New York State: https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/4210/
- Getting Married in NY City: <a href="https://www.cityclerk.nyc.gov/content/marriage-bureau">https://www.cityclerk.nyc.gov/content/marriage-bureau</a>
- Project NYC Cupid: www.nyc.gov/cupid
- NYC Clerk Office Locations: <a href="https://www.cityclerk.nyc.gov/content/office-locations-hours">https://www.cityclerk.nyc.gov/content/office-locations-hours</a>
- Westchester Municipalities: http://www.ny.gov/counties/westchester#
- Westchester County Clerk: City, Town, Village, Clerk Phone #'s: http://www.westchesterclerk.com/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=186&Itemid=195

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Ready to Book?





Q. All of this sounds great! How can we move forward with booking you for our celebration?

When you contact me by email, phone, or text, I'll respond to you as soon as possible. I am available for a no-obligation consultation to answer your questions, provide helpful information, and give you an opportunity to get to know me so you can decide if I am a good match for you and your significant others special day!

I'll ask for your ceremony date, time, location, and a few questions about the two of you including what kind of ceremony you are dreaming of.

If you'd like to take next steps to save the date, I will send you a Pre-Ceremony Questionnaire, a Contract for Services and I'll take a deposit to lock in the date. Once all parties have signed the Ceremony contract, I am happy to provide you with samples of wording to help you get your thoughts together for your special day. This sample packet includes: Introduction of Couple, Parent's Consent, Readings, Officiant Preparation for the Vows, The Exchange of Vows, Exchange of Rings, Renewal of Vows, Guide to Running Your Own Ceremony Rehearsal, 10-Part Ceremony Script, Traditional Ceremony Scripts and a Ceremony Planner Checklist to make sure you don't forget a thing!

On your ceremony day, I can dress in semi-formal attire or a ministerial robe—whatever style makes you most comfortable. I will always arrive early to check in with the fabulous couple to make sure everything is going as planned. After your ceremony, we will sign the marriage license, make sure it is filed in a timely manner, and I would love any ceremony day photos you'd like to share.

I am an equal opportunity officiant, who does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion(s), gender (including identity and/or expression), national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or military status. I welcome all who seek my officiant services.

I look forward to speaking with you soon!

Officiant Daneen Harrison - "Dee"