



Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc.

2019 Wedding Guide

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*This is available as a Word document so you can customize it to fit your ministry. If you would like to receive the Word document, simply email your request with CHECKLIST in the subject line to UBPresidentRMC@gmail.com.



A Home For Love

When you stand outside my thatched hut
Could you guess how spacious it is inside?

There is a galaxy of worlds in here,
And space for as much love as I can find.

Ishikawa Jazan ~

from a Zen poem, 17th Century



I've Been Asked to Officiate a Wedding! YIKES!!

By Rev. Celia Milton

Now what? Maybe it didn't occur that anyone would ask and now you're freaking out! Take my hand. Come in off the ledge, it's going to be great! You might want to do it more than once!

Here, have a cuppa coffee. Weirdly enough (and THIS is relaxing!), the process doesn't start with you; it starts with your couple: the *ideal* non-mainstream-religious wedding is entirely couple-driven. Isn't that exciting? (The right answer is YES!!)



Things to keep in mind:

Repeat after me: they picked you for a reason. They picked you for a reason. They like you, or you worked with their dad; your new pink hair goes with their color scheme; you look friendly; they asked their cousin who said yes and then panicked and disappeared. It doesn't matter why they picked you; they did. And you'll be fabulous.

Here's what you do now that you're off that ledge and back in the building.

First, most importantly, find out if your ordination allows you to legally marry them. In some states, there are extra steps beyond your UB ordination. (In NYC for example, you'd need to be registered with the NYC clerk's office.) Make sure you are legal. I believe I mentioned that. Make sure. It's important.

Now that you're sure you are legal, contact the couple. Tell them you're delighted they thought to ask you. And outline the steps for them to take. Keep in mind that even if you have NO idea how to do this, you're still five minutes ahead of them. And you'll figure it out.

Hey, let's make a list!



1. Reply. Do this as fast as you can. They're excited, they're nervous, they have no idea what to do next. If you have a website, send them the link. If you are going to reply via email, make it lighthearted and fun to look at.

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2. Schedule a call: telephone, FaceTime video, or Skype video. Make it happen at a time that's relaxed for you and them. After dinner, before the late evening news. Let them know you'll be speaking for about 45 minutes to an hour so they're prepared with questions and they know what to expect.



3. Start with the facts. Ask them about their venue, their bridal party, their parents, their dog. Ask them if they want any religious content. Ask them if they have ethnic, cultural, heritage factors that they want to include. (Good examples; a glass breaking, a seven steps ritual, a Stefana crowning, a tea ceremony, a saké sharing...) Get them to talk. They love to talk about the wedding.



4. Walk through a ceremony with them. Include all the parts from "I will arrive an hour ahead of time" to "then you kiss." Know and point out which parts are legally required.



5. Put together a contract; yes, even if you're doing this for a friend, even if you're not asking to get paid. A contract is vital to confirm expectations for both parties: when you'll show up, when they'll show up, what you'll do, what you expect them to do.



6. Then send them a questionnaire (if you contact me, I can send you mine). The questionnaire will ask them the questions that will help you write the ceremony.



7. Write it. Include all the different parts you need (we'll talk about that next time!). Find fun, unusual readings. Practice multiple times. Highlight, use accent marks. Add stage directions. Put your script in a beautiful folder. Type up their vows for them, on something presentable for the photos.



8. Show up at least 45 minutes early; talk to your musicians, your photographers, the venue coordinators, parents, bridal party, and the couple. Practice with the microphone. Make sure any "props" are in place.

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9. Relax. Do a fabulous job. As soon as the ceremony is complete, sign and send the license. Write the couple a thank you note and send them information about how to retrieve their "real" license from the issuing clerk. Write a thank you note to the venue and other vendors you met.

And that's it! You've got this!

Rev. Celia Milton is a wedding officiant based in New Jersey. Over the past 13 years, she's performed close to 3,000 weddings in back yards, in Yankee Stadium, and at the top of the Empire State Building. She says, "It's been quite the ride!"



Contact Info:

Celia Milton
Celia Milton Wedding Services
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celia@celiamilton.com
201-563-5544



UB Minister Business Card Ads

Would you like your own **business card ad** in *UB GoodNews*?
More info on page 20!



UB is on Facebook!



LIKE and FOLLOW us
on Facebook, and
SHARE content!

See page 21 for more info

**Universal Brotherhood
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Comfortable & Confident

By Rev. Kelly Graham

A quick study of the websites where wedding officiants offer their services shows most have one thing in common: each says the couple can feel “comfortable and confident” in choosing that officiant.

Over and over you see phrases like “I feel comfortable and confident officiating various kinds of weddings.” And in the testimonial section of many websites, you see comments from couples like “We felt comfortable when we met with her, and we were confident because she was so responsive via email.” More than anything, the couples you serve will want to feel **comfortable** and **confident** in making the choice of working with you.

But it’s important to remember that YOU will want to feel comfortable and confident as you provide guidance to each excited and nervous couple before, during and after the wedding ceremony. If YOU are comfortable and confident, that will be communicated to the couple in your words, in your facial expressions, in your body language, in your energy, and more.

It gets easier with time and experience in conducting weddings—but always, the key to your own comfort and confidence is *preparation*. Before the wedding date you may be involved with consultations, assisting in planning and possibly creating a customized ceremony, attending rehearsal, and making sure you are familiar with the directions and requirements regarding the marriage license.

On the wedding day you will want to feel confident as you perform the couples’ special ceremony, sign the license and enjoy the love that is present with friends and family of the bride and groom. Once the wedding day is over you want to be confident that you have legally met all requirements of each state and county and the newlyweds are legally married.

Read and re-read the license instructions. Read, re-read and practice out loud the ceremony. Visualize the ceremony going perfectly and visualize the nervous and excited couple becoming happy and confident as the ceremony concludes.

One way to know you have prepared is to “check off” tasks as you complete them. **On page 22** you will find a checklist created for you to move forward with grace and confidence as you begin the journey before each wedding ceremony. Please print it and use it if you like.

And if you would like to customize the list, please email UBPresidentRMC@gmail.com with CHECKLIST in the subject line, and you will receive the list in a Word document so you can make it your own.

Do the blend!

~ a recipe for great ceremonies and happy clients

By Rev. Charlotte Eulette



Each time we UB ministers co-create and officiate at or preside over a ceremony, there exists a great opportunity to make it *the best it can be* for our client honorees. The valuable service we provide as ceremony-makers resonates deeply with our client honorees...and they certainly appreciate it. As a result, our clients often consider us to be their “family minister” for many of their life-cycle ceremonies, and they keep coming back to us. As UB ministers doing this great and needed work, we have the unique opportunity to become the “trusted keeper” of our client honoree’s history and legacy.

A tried and true way to make our client honorees even more satisfied, is to **blend** their important and very own personal life aspects into the ceremony. While in the process of working together with them, we can actively find out the important things they wish to include in the ceremony and, just as important, what they don’t want mentioned in any way at all. In our work, let’s make note of both. It’s advisable to have our client honorees proof the final draft of their ceremony, get their edits (if any) and their thumbs-up before we go “live.”

A “blended” ceremony acknowledges and includes some or more of the following aspects of a person(s) life that they wish to focus on, pay attention to in some way — or pay tribute to in their ceremony:

Ancestors, Family, Relationships, Extended Family and Friends

Symbols — Heirlooms — Altars — Gifts

Culture — Language(s) — Ethnicity — Customs

History — Experiences — Special Stories

Personality — Likes and Dislikes

Philosophy of Life — Beliefs

Life’s Work — Talents

Protocol for LGBTQ + and/or anyone with special needs or circumstances

Environmental Awareness

Language Usage Awareness

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As UB Ministers we often work with people from all walks of life, and therefore we are stepping into their lives in a very personal way. From the start, when we meet with our clients and begin the intake/interview process to co-create their ceremony, we can discover (by using the info above) what is important for them to include in their ceremony, and what they don't want mentioned or in their ceremony. Once they reply, via the dialogue we have with them, we can then create the elements, moments and rituals of the ceremony that include the: people, stories and even languages (for instance if it's a bilingual ceremony) that make their ceremony unique and meaningful.

Finally, let's talk about ceremonial language use. It is paramount that attention is paid to how to correctly verbally address the people in or mentioned in the ceremony. For instance, perhaps our client honoree(s) don't want to use gender-heavy terms to describe themselves or others - such as: "he or she" but instead prefer "them, they or we" or "the couple" or the use of first names that are approved in advance. It's the careful attention to what they share with us that makes the big difference. It's key for us to delve in, read and listen to what they say and find sensitive, personalized and creative ways to make their ceremony and our service to them - great.

As UB ministers we are a family of creative muses for sure, and homegrown-personalized rituals, people skills, professionalism, etiquette, ceremonial writing and officiating are second nature for many of us.

Now, if you need a bit of help or some further conversation about this topic, you can count on me as your colleague UB Minister and professional, certified Life-Cycle Celebrant®. I am blessed to have experience with a vast array of life-cycle ceremonies, and I'm always happy to share my knowledge with you and/or put you in touch with other UB Celebrants and *happy-to-be-a-UB-Mentors* near you. We are blended people doing this great work as a complete reflection of the world we serve.

Thank you.

Charlotte Eulette, UB Minister since 2002 and
International Director of the
Celebrant Foundation & Institute
@ www.celebrantinstitute.org
charlotteeulette@celebrantinstitute.org

Phone: 973-746-1792





Tying the Knot ~ A Handfasting Ceremony

By Rev. Jim DeKornfeld



As a certified Life-Cycle Celebrant® I have used my ministry to create a Family Ceremony Practice. I have created and officiated home blessings; ceremonies for those transitioning from a private home setting to an assisted living environment; and funerals and weddings. The bulk of what I do, however, and the passion that I have for ceremony, has been most fulfilled through *creating custom written wedding ceremonies.*

Handfasting Ceremony

You will need a ribbon about two feet long and a cord about five feet long. Place the ribbon on the clasped forearms of the couple, drape the cord over the ribbon and say something similar to the following:

Celebrant: “This ceremony celebrates love and commitment. The commitment to be true in heart and mind is something that should never be lightly offered nor arbitrarily accepted.”

The couple clasps their forearms together. I place a ribbon along their forearms. A decorated cord (about five feet long) is draped over the ribbon. With each of the statements below being said one end of the cord is draped around the clasped wrists until there is a “loop” around their wrists.

Celebrant: “Know all of these things to be true:

These are the hands of your best friend, soon to be wearing each other’s rings.

These are your hands welcoming each other’s family as your own.

These are the hands that will love and comfort you and wipe away tears of both sorrow and joy.

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Handfasting Ceremony Continued...

These are the hands that will work together toward your common goals, to prop you up or help you down.

These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children as they hold your family together.

These are the hands that will heal your wounds both inside and out.

These are the hands that will open doors of opportunity for each other.

These are the hands that, when wrinkled and tired, will still reach for you at night.”

Celebrant: “I will now tie the knot.”

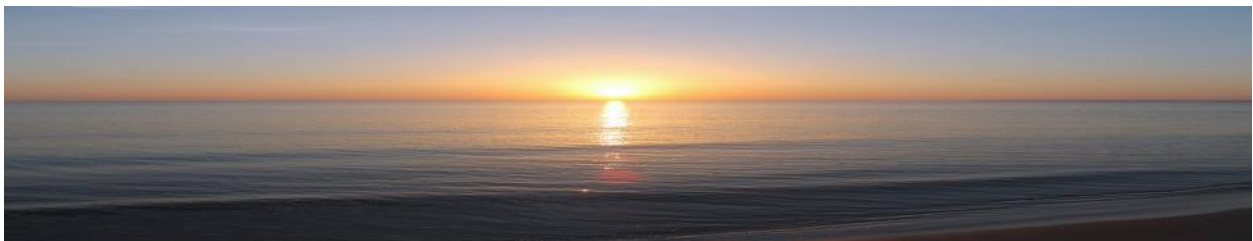
The ribbon is then knotted around the coil and a wonderful keepsake is created for the couple to keep.



Rev. Jim DeKornfeld is a member of the UB Board of Directors and a certified Life-Cycle Celebrant®. Let Jim know if he may assist you with any ceremony preparation or ideas.



Jim DeKornfeld
Daybreak Ceremonies
www.daybreakceremonies.com
See page 19 for more information



Divine Gift of Weddings & Reiki

By Rev. Shalandra Abbey



It was no mistake that Reiki, Rick and Jeni found me within months of each other back in 1989. They are the foundation my life is based upon, so naturally I am offering wedding tips from this perspective.

- Couple orders a Wedding Ceremony; normally today it is from a website.
- Distant Reiki is sent to the situation of the couple's energy to check what energy vibration will be needed for ceremony.
- Contact couple to discover their ideas for their wedding and how they match their personal combined vibration. If needed, offer suggestions for alignment.
- Send distant Reiki treatment to clear energy of selected venue. Is there a venue with a better, more enjoyable energetic match?
- Send distant Reiki treatment for the perfect vows to match couples combined vibration.
- Before wedding day send Reiki to bring all aspects of ceremony, reception and their day into harmonious balance.
- On the wedding day, if desired bring in more Reiki practitioners for providing full-table and/or mini-chair treatments for the bride and groom and their wedding party prior to and perhaps after their ceremony. Sometimes distant treatments are also needed during the ceremony.

Then be prepared...to later receive requests to use Reiki to clear the energy and bless their new home, to receive a child's christened name before you use Reiki for the perfect words for a baptism ceremony. In Hawaii I enjoy doing this in the ocean or a river or somewhere in nature.

They often will ask you to renew their vows. Or just send Reiki to create a ceremony simply to celebrate being grateful for life or whatever. And when needed, Reiki works extremely well for receiving a very personal Celebration of Life ceremony, sometimes directly from the one who has passed.

For me, ceremonies also provide a deeper connection with my Reiki students and clients. Reiki is a spiritual discipline and yet is not connected with any religion. You can't do Reiki without feeling a spiritual connection. This makes our interfaith ministry a natural partnership.



Celebration Ceremonies: www.reikihawaii.com/items/basic-ceremony

Minister Director Shalandra Abbey was ordained in 1989





Growing a Successful Marriage

Rev. Jeanne M. Wiger, PhD



For more than 30 years, couples have trusted Marriage and Family Therapist Rev. Jeanne M. Wiger, PhD, with their marriages or proposed marriages. Rev. Wiger, author of ***Growing a Successful Marriage***, explains that her workbook is about alchemy; specifically, relationship alchemy. *Growing a Successful Marriage* provides tools couples can work with to “change the ‘lead’ of an ‘ordinary’ marriage into a golden relationship.”

Below is an excerpt from *Growing a Successful Marriage*:

What is a Contract?

A contract is an important agreement between two parties. It provides a foundation, a starting point, for how things work and how future problems are solved.

Three contracts exist in every marriage even though they are not always recognized. The three marriage contracts are:

- The Legal or Public Contract is the contract the state and often the church sanctions, marked by a ceremony we call a wedding.
- The Social Contract deals with who will do what in the marriage. It is all about the when, where and how of daily living. Though these issues have the power to make or break a relationship, too often these patterns go unrecognized or unspoken. Individuals unconsciously follow their parents’ way of doing things. When one person’s original parental way differs from that of his or her marriage partner, conflict is apt to arise.
- The Script Contract is the most powerful and the least recognized of the three contracts. It is based on decisions of “Who am I?” made in very early childhood, usually before the age of three. This unconscious contract may be a primary reason that marriages of couples that have lived together before marriage fail even more often than do the marriages of those who don’t.”

*Rev. Jeanne M. Wiger holds a PhD in human development, a masters degree in studio art and art education and an undergraduate degree in comparative religion. She was in private practice as a Marriage and Family Therapist for more than 30 years. Today she is a therapist, teacher, storyteller, writer, artist and life coach. To purchase **Growing a Successful Marriage** for yourself or as a gift for a couple, contact Rev. Wiger through her website,*

www.jeannewiger.com

Important Information Concerning Your Ministry for Ministers Ordained by Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc.

Information About Your Ministry

It is your responsibility to inform yourself of all state, Federal and local laws that govern your ministry.

If there is a lapse in your yearly licensing fees to Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc. (due during your ordination month) then you are no longer covered under our legal “umbrella.” Therefore, you may not perform civil ceremonies and/or any other service as an ordained minister. If you have any questions about your active status, contact Executive Director Robin Morini via robin.ubm@gmail.com or via telephone at 954-574-9904 or 954-974-1181.

Before you officiate a wedding ceremony:

You are responsible for educating yourself and for following local laws and requirements in your area, for your particular practice. Some cities and states require you to register as a minister. It is your responsibility to check with local authorities before you perform any ceremony as an ordained minister to see what the requirements are for your area. In the USA you should contact the local “Clerk of the Court” for this information, and also research what the laws are in your area. These requirements may change between counties and it is your responsibility to insure that you are legally permitted to perform any ceremony before doing so. An example of this is New York State, where if performing a ceremony in the five boroughs of New York City, you must register before officiating a marriage ceremony. This requirement is not necessary anywhere else in the state that we know of at this time.

When performing wedding ceremonies, you must have the marriage certificate signed by witnesses, if required, and/or sign it yourself. This must be done on the wedding day. You are responsible for sending that certificate back within the required time to the appropriate office; the Clerk of Courts office/local licensing agency/etc. All information should be on the license; but preferably call the local county well before the wedding day to find out what is required of an officiant. Please check local laws as there may be a time period that this must be done within to prevent being fined or possibly being sentenced to prison. For example, in North Carolina marriage licenses must be returned in ten (10) days to the issuing authority. If you do not meet this deadline then you will be required to pay a fine of \$200.00 and shall also be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor (if convicted you will go to jail) [NC Statutes 51 — 7].

Before conducting a ceremony always remember to check the guidelines for that location where the ceremony will be conducted.

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Before you agree to officiate a wedding ceremony, contact the Local Bureau/Clerk of Courts office as to whether you are required to register or present a Minister's Verification Letter. In some states you can be fined up to \$1,000 and face up to a year in prison for failure to follow certain regulations. Rules can vary from town to town, so be sure to check.

With any questions, or if you need a Minister's Verification Letter, contact Executive Director Robin Morini via robin.ubm@gmail.com or via telephone at 954-574-9904 or 954-974-1181.

***All states and localities have different requirements, so please check well in advance.
This cannot be over-emphasized.***

General Information

If you are using your ordination to open a church, center, etc., you must let your clients know under what legal avenue they are coming to you. For example, on your business cards, brochures or advertisements, you must:

- Indicate you are an ordained minister. This can be done in a number of ways: Rev. in front of your name, or Interfaith Minister under your name, or Clergy or Ordained through Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc. In short, you must have some clear way of letting anyone know that this is how you are legally practicing.
- You must also obtain any business licenses and/or complete any filings that are necessary for your business, such as obtaining a separate tax ID, etc. Whether this is necessary depends on how you are going to classify your business; e.g. nonprofit, not-for-profit or regular business.
- You can get information locally from your library; you can contact your local or state government licensing agencies; or consult a local attorney or accountant.

Remember, you are a professional. Many organizations provide a "Code of Ethics" which controls your moral and ethical standards. Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc. honors your independent ministry. For the love and protection of your ministry and Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc. you are required to date and sign the Annual Certification Form. It is up to you to honor and protect the integrity of your ministry and Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc. You will find a printable version of the Annual Certification Form [here](#).

Some resources that may be available in your area to help you start your business: ☐ Service Core of Retired Executives (SCORE) ☐ Local entrepreneurial council ☐ Local economic development commission ☐ Local Small Business Administration ☐ Local Chamber of Commerce ☐ Local Community Colleges (may have small business centers) ☐ Your state departments of Labor and Commerce ☐ Local government councils.

Please feel free to contact Executive Director Robin Morini via robin.ubm@gmail.com or via telephone at 954-574-9904 or 954-974-1181 if you have any questions.

Resources

Specific State Marriage Laws

One resource for information on marriage license laws in the United States is www.usmarriagelaws.com. Here you will find valuable information for ministers who are seeking the location and phone numbers of the county clerk or court clerk, along with information regarding whether or not you are required to register with one of these officials. You will also find requirements for solemnizing a marriage in another state. Listed are also the duties of the officiating minister, the required number of witness signatures, and the required time frame for the marriage certificate/license to be sent back to the appropriate state agency that records marriage certificates.

AFTER CHECKING THIS WEBSITE, ALWAYS CHECK DIRECTLY WITH THE COUNTY OR COURT OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO ENSURE YOU HAVE THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc.

For questions, minister's verification letters, and any other paperwork required, please contact Executive Director Rev. Robin Morini in the UB office:

954-574-9904 or 954-974-1181

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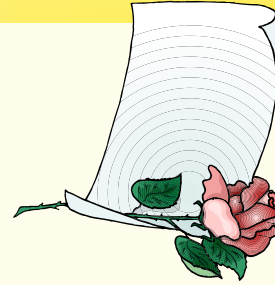
UB Website:

[Information About Your Ministry](#)



Special Keepsake Ideas & Resources

By Rev. Robin Morini



Many times I have enjoyed conversation with a minister who has just officiated a wedding ceremony. My heart is always touched as these ministers share their experiences with me.

Below I've included a few of these shared ideas from the ministers who have gifted the newly married couple with a keepsake.

One creative and fun way to gift a keepsake for the couple is to create a wedding certificate. This created wedding certificate is not a valid marriage license, but it will be a memento the couple can cherish for years to come.

Or you could create a wedding certificate with clip art and your computer, or even scan in your own art creations. Another idea is a "love map" showing where the couple met, dated and married. Below are resources for free printable wedding certificate graphics and templates.

Other keepsakes UB ministers have created include small soul portraits of the couple, a handmade booklet of poetry, a handmade book of the couple's wedding ceremony or specific parts of their ceremony, the wedding vows written in calligraphy and framed, and a candle carved with special symbols that relate to the couple.

These are only four of the many resource websites available:

<https://www.hooverwebdesign.com/free-printables/printable-certificates/printable-marriage-certificates.html>

weddings.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Printable_Wedding_Certificates_for_Fun

www.freeprintablecertificates.net/category/marriage

<http://www.delightfullynotedblog.com/2011/10/love-map-wall-art-diy-wedding-gift.html>

Best. Ceremony. Ever.

by Christopher Shelley:

part genuine guide, part professional proponent.

When I began writing my book *Best. Ceremony. Ever.* back in 2017, it was just me on my computer fooling around with the idea of a wedding humor book, what was meant to be an encyclopedia of wedding buzzwords, defined in broad, realistic, comedic terms. But then I realized that I knew a whole lot about creating entire wedding ceremonies, and that perhaps the thousands of people who'd witnessed the ceremonies I perform were not merely being polite when they expressed their delight. Perhaps I knew something that could be valuable for other wedding professionals.

I was conflicted about writing a book that could be used to assist amateurs – friends, family members – when they were asked to officiate ceremonies. I've been involved in the effort to educate people about the value that trained officiants and Celebrants bring to weddings. For me, the friend-officiating-the-wedding is my personal nails-on-a-chalkboard. Anyone reading this has probably had to do some client-educating of their own, and you know how exhausting this can be.

Yet I also realized that I would never be able to entirely quell this trend country-wide. Clients from only a few states ever reach out to me. The trend will likely never go away. Budgeting concerns will always plague couples, and since our contribution is less tangible than photographs or videos, our efforts are likely to be valued less for all eternity. So my thinking became more self-serving and survivalist. Hey, why not do what I can to help people have better ceremonies, whether they are professionals or not? As I mention in the book, I'd love to officiate every wedding in every state, that's how much I love officiating, but this is obviously impossible.

Now the book is out, and it's only been since I saw the physical book in my hands that I realized something wonderful:

the sheer amount of information in this book could deter amateurs from going through with the exercise of performing a function for which they are wholly unqualified.

I can see the book helping people, for sure, but I can also see it opening peoples' eyes to the fact that officiating a wedding is a more complex task than it initially appears to be. I hope the book can help all of the good people who sought out legitimate, valuable ordination through this wonderful organization. And until I meet you in person – hey, have a good wedding today!

BIO: Chris has been officiating weddings since 2011. He has a BFA in Acting from Boston University and an MFA in Creative Writing from NYU. He's performed weddings in settings as diverse as the New York Public Library, The Park Plaza, The Roosevelt Hotel, The Brooks Atkinson Theater (Broadway!), Citifield (where the Mets try), Grand Central Station, all over Central Park, on dinner boats and rooftops, in wineries, re-purposed warehouses, breweries, mansions, country clubs, hotel suites and one old retired cop's living room in Brooklyn. He has appeared on The Rachael Ray Show several times. Chris writes and performs wedding ceremonies through his company Illuminating Ceremonies. He lives in New York and Cincinnati with his smart wife, King.

Best. Ceremony. Ever. is available via [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), [IndieBound](#), [Target](#), lots of places where books are sold.



RESOURCES

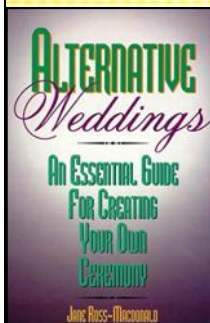


Resources ~



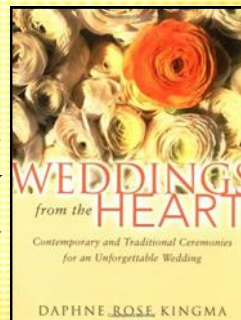
Books you may find helpful for your collection

From the [Resource Bookshelf](#) on our website:



Click [here](#) for *Alternative Weddings: An Essential Guide For Creating Your Own Weddings* by Jane Ross-McDonald

Click [here](#) for *Weddings from the Heart: Contemporary and Traditional Ceremonies for an Unforgettable Wedding* by Daphne Rose Kingma



Diane Warner's Complete Book of Wedding Vows ~ Hundreds of Ways To Say "I Do"

Included in this book are traditional and nontraditional vows, vows for second marriages, vows that include children, reaffirmation vows, vows with religious variations. ***Complete Book of Wedding Vows*** offers step-by-step advice on creating and composing vows that express love and commitment.

The ***Complete Book of Wedding Vows*** is available in [Kindle](#) and [paperback](#) at www.amazon.com

Growing A Successful Marriage The "Being Married" Workbook

Drawing on more than 30 years of experience as a Marriage and Family Therapist, Rev. Jeanne M. Wiger, PhD, has created a practical, informative, intimate and beautifully illustrated workbook for couples moving toward marriage, married couples and for wedding officiants and ministers who serve these couples. This workbook is a powerful tool in creating a long and happy marriage. 135 pages published in a three-ring binder for the convenience of a workbook.

For more information please contact
Rev. Jeanne Wiger: www.jeannewiger.com



Daybreak Ceremonies Services Available

By Rev. Jim DeKornfeld



When the Prigmores began the Universal Brotherhood Movement more than 40 years ago, they created a framework for us to be ordained and available to those in need of our services. We all created our own ministries for a variety of reasons. The one constant for all of us, though, is our desire to serve our constituents to the best of our abilities in the manner we see fit.

For Daybreak Ceremonies, the goal was to create a marriage and family ceremony practice. Since my ordination, I have been blessed to officiate more than 100 wedding ceremonies in four states and the District of Columbia. I have also presided over a dozen or more end-of-life services where the families desired a ceremony for their loved ones without the trappings of a traditional church service. To honor my wife Dawn, who has supported me throughout my UB experience, I named my practice ***Daybreak Ceremonies***.

It's time to expand the reach of Daybreak Ceremonies and provide services to a greater number of couples or families than I can on my own. I am pleased to announce that Daybreak Ceremonies has begun an Associate's program, allowing like-minded officiants to join Daybreak Ceremonies. This will allow Daybreak Ceremonies to officiate wedding and other ceremonies over a greater geographic area, as well as perform multiple ceremonies on the same day as necessary.

If you would like to expand your practice, but feel uncomfortable writing the ceremonies you officiate, please consider joining Daybreak Ceremonies as an associate. I will write the ceremonies; you deliver the ceremonies; and the couples we both serve will benefit from our joint service.

If this is of interest, please feel free to reach out to me.

Email: jim@daybreakceremonies.com

Telephone: 910-695-8626



*Rev. Jim DeKornfeld is a member of the UB Board of Directors and a certified Life-Cycle Celebrant®. See his article **Tying the Knot** on pages 9-10.*



Ministers Liability Insurance Information

In response to many phone calls regarding liability insurance, one of our UB ministers has mentioned *Healing Touch Professional Association* and *Energy Medicine Professional Association*. The associations have partnered to offer liability insurance for energy healing therapies and spiritual counseling.

Learn more here:

<http://www.htprofessionalassociation.com/liability-insurance>.

This information does not constitute insurance or investment advice, or an offer to sell, or the solicitation of any offer to buy any insurance or investment, and is provided for information only.



BUSINESS CARD ADS

**Now available
in UB GoodNews!**



Active members may place an advertisement that is a snapshot of their business card, OR advertising copy the same size as a business card for only **\$25 per issue.**

We are accepting ads for your ministry from members in good standing. Please pay in advance, and remember we may edit for content and clarity.

To submit an ad, simply email your copy to robin.ubm@gmail.com. There are several ways to send it:

1. scan your business card and email it as a jpg or pdf; OR
2. save your business-card-sized advertising copy as a pdf; OR
3. simply take a snapshot of your business card on a flat surface from directly above and email it.

Easy!

Questions?

Please email

Executive Director Robin Morini at

robin.ubm@gmail.com

or call 954-574-9904 / 954-974-1181



**UB Founders Rev. Drs.
Rick and Jeni Prigmore**

Exploring Our Website



Enjoy the peaceful thoughts of our beloved Founder Rev. Dr. Jeni Prigmore at [A Moment of OM](http://www.universalbrotherhood.org/category/jeni/): www.universalbrotherhood.org/category/jeni/

Feel the outreach of love as President Rev. Rosemary Cathcart shares her thoughts and wisdom in [Love Notes](http://www.universalbrotherhood.org/category/lovenotes/): www.universalbrotherhood.org/category/lovenotes/

When you would like to enhance your thoughts and ideas you may find [The Bookshelf](http://www.universalbrotherhood.org/resources/books-shelf/) a happy place to visit: www.universalbrotherhood.org/resources/books-shelf/

You will find answers to FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) about UB [here](http://www.universalbrotherhood.org/resources/questions-andanswers/): www.universalbrotherhood.org/resources/questions-andanswers/



Universal Brotherhood has a Facebook Page!



<https://www.facebook.com/UBMovement/>



Please visit and “like” our page! And please invite others to view our page, and share posts you like with others.

At a recent UB Board of Directors meeting President Rosemary Cathcart said, “We need goodness, and UB distributes goodness wherever it goes.”



One of the ways to help spread and distribute this goodness is to share our Facebook page. Let’s send it around the world!



UB Wedding Officiant Checklist

Authorization to Perform Weddings

- ☐ Contact UB Executive Director Robin Morini to be sure your membership shows "current" on the UB books. Call 954-574-9904 or email robin.ubm@gmail.com (please be sure to put your name and OFFICIANT CREDENTIALS in the subject line)
- ☐ Do you have a current Universal Brotherhood Movement, Inc. ID card?
- ☐ Do you need a verification letter from UB for the state?
- ☐ Do you need to complete an application with the state / county / city in order to perform weddings? (check with all three)

Wedding License

- ☐ Contact the county official who oversees wedding regulations and go over the process for properly completing and returning the license. ASK all the details: time frame to return the license; whether or not a return envelope is provided; if witnesses are necessary, and if so, how many; etc.
- ☐ If no envelope is provided to mail the license, prepare your own envelope with the correct address
- ☐ Do you have: a pen to sign the license? Stamps to mail the license on the way home? A folder to hold the paperwork and instructions?
- ☐ BEFORE THE WEDDING: When the couple receive their license it will be accompanied by a list of instructions and directions for the officiant. Go over this list several times to be sure all three of you are clear about what is required
- ☐ AT THE WEDDING: Immediately upon arrival, locate whomever has the paperwork and place it in your folder
- ☐ AT THE WEDDING: As soon as you have the paperwork, find out who is designated to sign the license and tell them you will need them for five minutes immediately following the ceremony
- ☐ FOLLOWING THE WEDDING: drop the license in the mail on your way home

Ceremony / Local Custom

- ☐ Do you have a ceremony book to help you guide the couple?
- ☐ Have you investigated typical wedding services offered and prices charged in your area?
- ☐ Have you considered including a reminder to silence cell phones before the ceremony?
- ☐ Check with the couple to be sure you are pronouncing names correctly

Personal Preparation

- ☐ If you have seasonal allergies, bringing your allergy medicine might be a good idea
- ☐ A notepad and pen (sounds simple, but so easy to forget!)
- ☐ Stamps to mail the license
- ☐ Reading glasses, if you need them
- ☐ Emergency preparation: a couple of Band-Aids, a small sewing kit, a safety pin or two, floss, breath mints, a protein bar and a bottle of water