

M.C.K EMBAKASI SOCIAL POLICY

DRAFT

THIS IS A DRAFT POLICY THAT HAVE TO BE FURTHER SCRUTINIZED, CORRECTED EDITED BEFORE APPROVAL AND FINAL ADOPTION.

WHEN DEATH OCCURS TO A MEMBER/NUCLEAR FAMILY OF A MEMBER

- Notification to the Chairman, Minister or Secretary of the church shall be done through the chairperson of the group the member belongs.
- The family of the bereaved shall together with the church leadership plan for meetings to fundraiser towards funeral expenses.
- The church shall organize prayers at the home of the member during the time before the burial.

1. Donations/financial contributions

- Church will cater for the cost of the coffin set at Ksh.10, 000.00. (to consider increase)
- Donations to the bereaved family will be raised by Church members through a special Donations Register opened for that particular purpose.
- All financial contribution shall be coordinated by the church treasurer assisted by the assistant treasurer.
- Cash realized will be announced and handed over to a responsible member of the bereaved family by the Assistant Treasurer or his appointed agent.

2. Travel

- There will be members of the church (at their own cost) to accompany the bereaved family taking the body to its resting place. The Church shall, Sponsor the Minister for the burial function.
- Any other member who wishes to accompany the body as a relative/friend may do so at own expense.

Above will only be sanctioned by the church after verifying that:

- The deceased was a member of our church, confirmed and indeed, active in that sense determine whether Associate or full member.

3. DUTIES OF CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES

- To hand over the body and the letter from the Church to the receiving minister/Home Church Leaders.

- To testify that the deceased was indeed a member of the Methodist Church. This will be done by a member who is well acquainted to the deceased.

4. TAKING REMAINS OF THE BODY TO CHURCH

- The body is taken to the church to acknowledge the Christian or Spiritual element of the departed person/soul.
- It is a sign of respect and honor of the deceased contribution to the body of Christ.
- The body that should be taken to church must be of either an Associate or full member of MCK Embakasi.
- Bodies of Non- Christian or people who do not profess Christianity shall not be allowed in the Church.

The above applies to full members / Associate members of MCK Embakasi church.

BEREAVEMENT OF EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBER.

Extended family members refers to includes:

- 1. Sister/Brother**
- 2. Uncles**
- 3. Grandparents**
- 4. Cousins**

- Notification to the Chairman, Minister or Secretary of the church shall be done through the chairperson of the group the member belongs.
- In consultation with the Leaders and the Minister, the church might organize prayers/Fellowship at the home of the bereaved member where there is need.
- The church will only assist on individual basis upon request based on the strength of said relative's membership in the church.
- In case there is need for fundraising, the church will only assist on individual basis upon request.
- No donation register shall be opened by the church, the member will organize on modalities to invite individual members of the church to participate.
- Members who wishes to accompany the member for the burial of the relative shall do so at own expense.
- The church shall not sponsor the minister to travel. If indeed there is need for the minister to travel, it shall be at his/her (the minister) or sponsored by the member.

PROPOSED WEDDING POLICY

This includes the wedding guidelines that will be approved by the church leadership. The guidelines equally apply to members, regular attendees and guests.

ELIGIBILITY FOR A WEDDING

a) Church Members.

- One or both of the couple must:
 - i. Have been an active member of a MCK EMBAKASI CHURCH (limit minimum duration), where active refers to participation in church activities including Giving/Tithing etc
 - ii. The Bride/groom shall be responsible with maintaining cleanliness during and

B) Non Members :

- Nonmembers shall only be allowed to wed at the church premises on condition that:
 - i. They are Practicing Christians. Recommendation from the minister/pastor where they are members.
 - ii. The minister and the church Leadership may facilitate the wedding ceremony.
 - iv) The Bride/groom shall be responsible with maintaining cleanliness during and after the wedding

C)Non Christians

Individuals who do not profess Christianity should not be allowed to wed in the church.

CHURCH REQUIREMENTS

Those intending to wed must present to the minister.

- Notification of intent to wed at least 3 months (to be changed) to the actual wedding date.
- A letter of notification from the Attorney General (AG).
- The couple should have gone through counseling for a period (specify period) .

WEDDING COMMITTEES

a) Personal/Individual Weddings

- i. All wedding committees are personal and shall consist of friends, well-wishers and relatives of the couple, but if requested, the church can only take on an advisory or counseling role.
- ii. Wedding committees can be held within the church premises on any other day .On Sundays must be after the service after consultation with the minister and the leadership.

b) Civil Marriages

The church leadership [must be notified of all civil marriages with a view to solemnizing the same through a church wedding.

WEDDING GIFT BY THE CHURCH.

- The church shall give a bible as the gift, which shall be handed to the newlyweds during the church ceremony.
- Gifts by church group (Men Fellowship, Women Fellowship, Youth fellowship, JTCM) shall be as per the group policy and guidelines.
- No church member or group shall be compelled to give gift. It shall be voluntarily.

THE WEDDING SERVICE CEREMONY.

(Minister to propose)

RECEPTION AND DRESSING CODE

- The wedding reception must be conducted in accordance with the Methodist Faith and practice.
- No alcoholic drinks /Smoking shall be allowed during meals, cake cutting and after the ceremony.
- Entertainment groups shall be restricted to Christian Traditional. Selected Music upon consultation with the church.
- Secular Music is **strictly prohibited** and where there is need must be in consultation with the leadership.
- The bridal team shall be expected to dress decently and in keeping with Christian Acceptable standard.

SECURITY

- The church administration shall be mandated in consultation with the bride/groom and the wedding committee to ensure that there is ample security before, during and after the wedding ceremony.
- It shall be the responsibility of the bride/groom and their families to ensure that any equipment not belonging to MCK Embakasi Church is removed immediately after the wedding.

- All decorations must be done in consultation with the church leadership. The church shall have no liability over losses in such cases where items that do not belong to the church are brought in.
- The bride/groom shall be responsible for any church property that shall be assigned/used during the wedding for the wedding.

THE BEST COUPLE/MAN/MAID

Its advisable that they should:-

1. Be Practicing Christians.
2. Be legally married where a married couple is involved.
3. Be well known to the couple and morally upright.
4. Be of right Christian standing where the couple chooses to have a best man and maid of honour who are not a couple

FEES/CHARGES

- i. Church members shall be charged a general fee of **ksh.2000.**
- ii. Nonmembers shall be charged a general fee of **ksh.5000.**
- iii. Above general fee shall include use of church facility/services, mentioned like the church grounds, church hall, chairs ,toilets, Kitchen Utensils, music instruments, and P.A System, Choir etc.
- iv. Honorariums/incentives for the minister are personal to the bride and Groom.
- v. The church will not be liable for any breakages/damages. In case of repairs and losses the couple will be responsible.
- vi. Not adhering to the set time for the church ceremony will attract a penalty of Ksh.5000 or as agreed with the presiding Minister.

NB: Until and unless consented from both sides of parentage and written authorization form respective church/es are received. The church will not be under any obligation to conduct the wedding ceremony.

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