



#### WHAT IS INTERFAITH?

For me, “interfaith” is not a church or a religion, but a way of looking at life that celebrates the Oneness underlying all existence. The interfaith perspective honors all traditions and is open to creating new ones. When two people of different faiths decide to marry, it’s sometimes difficult to find traditional officiants who will perform the ceremony. Interfaith ministers like myself welcome the opportunity to provide a loving bridge.

As for my spiritual background, I come from a family dedicated to Reform Judaism. As an adult, led by my passion for meditation and healing, I explored other paths, including Buddhism, Hinduism, and various other mystical traditions. In the 90s, I was inspired to enter a 2-year program at the New Seminary, from which I graduated as an ordained Interfaith Minister. Since then, guided by the belief that each of us has a unique and direct connection to the Divine, I have officiated at numerous interfaith marriages, provided spiritual counseling and healing, and served as a hospital chaplain. Most of all, I love inspiring others at the crossroads of their lives to discover the truest expressions of their souls.

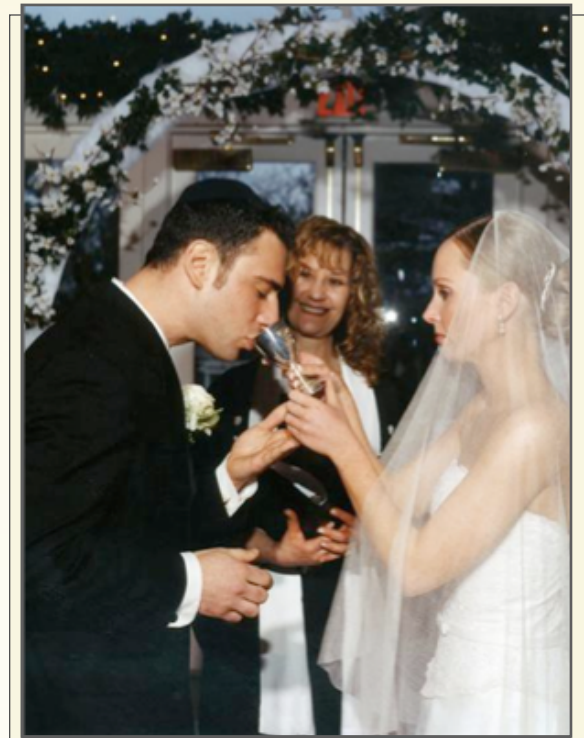


#### MY BACKGROUND

Rev. Pamela Bloom is an ordained interfaith minister, authorized to perform marriages in the state of New York, and other states upon request. She received a B.A. in Comparative Literature from Trinity College in Hartford, CT, and a Masters in Spiritual Counseling and ordination from the New Seminary in Manhattan. An award-winning writer, she is the author of five books and has been a columnist at numerous magazines. Among her most recent book is a compilation of true-life stories about the transformative power of kindness, entitled *The Power of Compassion: Stories that Open the Heart, Heal the Soul and Change the World* (Red Wheel Weiser, 2010). A classically trained singer, she has in the last years become known internationally as a speaker in the fields of healing, spirituality, and personal growth.

## Weddings from the Spirit

WITH REV. PAMELA BLOOM



❁ INTERFAITH CEREMONIES ❁

*“In the sky, as birds that share a wing.  
On earth, as trees that share a branch.”*



### A BEAUTIFUL STORY

"DH was raised Jewish, I was raised Catholic. We received a recommendation for Rev. Pamela through one of my friends who had been at a wedding she performed.

This was the best wedding present my friend could have given us -- Rev. Pamela has received the most compliments of all from our guests, which is so great because I don't think it's often that people pay so much attention to the ceremony, which is the actual wedding! Pamela is this incredible woman who is so unbelievably sincere and thoughtful. She created our ceremony with us and guided us along the way. We met with her several times leading up to the wedding, including a read-thru of the ceremony that our mothers were involved with.

The ceremony was an incredibly honest reflection of us and of our relationship. She involved all sides and was diligent in seeing that an evenly balanced ceremony was created and the end result was phenomenal. I really cannot say enough good things about her.

If you are looking for a spiritual, but nondenominational ceremony, I would really highly recommend her."

- Eileen & DH Linzer



# A Ceremony to Remember

## TAILORED TO YOUR NEEDS

### How can we work together?

Because creating a wedding ceremony is a very intimate collaboration, I like to offer a free introductory session so we can first meet and get to know each other. If you then decide to continue, I will send you a questionnaire to fill out together; it lets me find out more about you quickly, including facts about your wedding, details about how you met, your personal philosophies and beliefs, favorite songs, poems, etc. (And it's fun! Many couples put their completed questionnaire in their wedding album for posterity's sake!) Your answers are important because they help me cull just the right materials from the enormous variety of wedding resources I have collected over the years. And once I understand your spiritual perspectives and personal tastes, I can offer you suggestions for prayers, vows, readings, music, and more.

### The possibilities are endless.

At every step of development, your ideas and feelings guide me to our ultimate creation. For instance, you'll first decide on the flavor of your ceremony: elegant or casual, humorous or poignant, unconventional or traditional, or a mixture of all. From there, the possibilities are endless. I have led couples in performing traditional rituals (lighting a Unity candle, sharing the wine, breaking the glass, etc.), but I have also created original rituals and helped couples write their own vows. Family is also important, and I am very sensitive to the various issues that can arise in interfaith ceremonies, especially when parents and other relatives are present. And I am always open to learning! My biggest reward is when a couple come to feel they are speaking in their own voice, with the commitment of their full hearts.

### How long do we need?

The process to create a ceremony usually takes about 3-4 sessions of about 1-2 hours each. In special cases, it can be done more quickly. A brief rehearsal is usually held right before the wedding at the event site.

For those couples who would prefer a preset wedding ceremony, with little personal involvement, I am happy to provide that. Also, I am available for counseling, if a couple so desires.

Feel free to contact me to talk about your vision. In the meantime, please accept my warmest wishes for a beautiful marriage!

- Rev. Pamela Bloom



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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