

Wedding Welcome



Thank you for your interest in having North Ridge Church be a part of your wedding ceremony. We believe one's wedding is one of the most important spiritual moments in a person's life. Therefore, we take our potential involvement in your wonderful occasion quite seriously. Our goal is not only to help you have a memorable wedding day, but to help prepare you and your future spouse to build a successful, lifelong partnership. While a lifelong and loving marriage partnership doesn't come easily, we believe that with Jesus' help it is within everyone's reach. We're excited about how God can work in your relationship over the upcoming months!

Please review this document so that you will have a clear understanding of what the wedding process entails. This document covers requests for wedding ceremonies held at North Ridge Church and requests for a staff pastor to be the officiant at an off-site wedding.

REQUIREMENTS

1. In order for an NRC staff pastor to perform a wedding on or off-site, the couple must agree to the following guidelines:
 - Commit to working within the timeframe and communication parameters with the wedding coordinator, staff, and pastors.
 - The bride, groom, or both have regularly attends/attended NRC for 6 months or more.
 - Successfully complete marriage mentor (pre-marital) meetings with a qualified Christian Counselor or NRC Marriage Mentor.
 - Obtain the marriage license (North Ridge Church is in Marathon County) prior to the wedding. The NRC staff pastor will be responsible for mailing the marriage license to the county office.
2. **Fill out:**
 - Online [Wedding Request Form](#) (basic information about the couple)
 - Online [Intake Form](#) (more in-depth information to be shared with the officiating pastor and marriage mentor team)
3. **Once we receive the Wedding Request Form and Intake Forms:**
 - An NRC staff member will review the Wedding Request Form to determine if the bride and/or groom meet the necessary requirements to be married at North Ridge Church.
 - A meeting will be set to discuss your needs and requests, discuss the Intake Form details, wedding process, etc..
4. **Sign & return this form**

PRE-MARRIAGE MENTORING

- We use a Pre-Marital Mentoring Assessment that will be emailed to each individual. Couples are responsible for paying a one-time \$35 assessment fee. Once complete, a mentor couple will be assigned and make the connection between couples.
- The mentoring process may take 4-6 months, so we encourage couples to plan ahead to allow ample time to have mentoring as part of their marriage journey.

OFFICIATING PASTOR

- Depending on the request and on availability, a staff pastor may be assigned as the officiant. *If the couple has a personal relationship with a staff pastor, we encourage the couple to connect with them first to request that they perform the ceremony.*
- If the ceremony is held at NRC, the wedding coordinator will be in further contact to arrange a time to meet to review the rehearsal and ceremony details. The coordinator will communicate the details to the officiating pastor.
- If the ceremony is held off-site, the officiating pastor will contact you for follow-up details.

FACILITY USE

Wedding requests for NRC are based on facility availability. Weddings are to be scheduled on Friday evenings or Saturday afternoons (no later than 2:00 p.m. start). NRC does not schedule weddings on Easter weekend, Thanksgiving weekend, or the two weeks before or after Christmas. Church staff will confirm availability.

It is the responsibility of the couple to make all facility arrangements at the church or another venue. The following fee schedule applies to all weddings involving NRC and NRC pastors:

At North Ridge Church (\$800) - Once the date is confirmed, a \$100 deposit is required. Two weeks prior to the ceremony, the balance is to be paid in full. The total covers payment for the officiating pastor, wedding coordinator, audio/visual technician, custodian, and facility use.

At an Off-site Venue(s)

- Minimum \$200 for officiating pastor, paid directly to the pastor.
- If there is additional travel, please provide hotel arrangements for pastor and cover their travel costs (mileage or flight).

OTHER TOPICS

If a couple wants to be married by a NRC staff pastor and they are living together and/or sexually active, the couple must agree to stay apart sexually from the date of signing the NRC Wedding Agreement until the wedding night. The Bible teaches that a man and a woman should only enter into a sexual relationship after they've made a covenantal promise of marriage to each other. We believe that honoring this prior to marriage gives the couple the best foundation to build their life together upon.

We believe that God's intention is for a couple to be married for life; however, we also understand that people make their own choices. NRC staff pastors will marry those who have been divorced. We do require that the couple make this a major area of exploration in their mentoring sessions.

I, _____ (GROOM PRINT NAME) have read and understand the stipulations of holding a wedding ceremony at North Ridge Church and/or utilizing a pastor outside of the North Ridge Church building.

Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____

I, _____ (BRIDE PRINT NAME) have read and understand the stipulations of holding a wedding ceremony at North Ridge Church and/or utilizing a pastor outside of the North Ridge Church building.

Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____