

Wedding Guidelines and Policies

1. **Wedding Ceremony:** A Christian wedding ceremony is first and foremost a worship service. It is a joyous celebration of two people making a lasting commitment to one another., which is done before God and those who have gathered as a congregation. The service is an affirmation that God's blessings are upon a couple who seeks to be united by God's Word in Jesus Christ. Therefore, any couple being married in our church needs to affirm that "Jesus is Lord."
2. **Getting Started:** A couple who are planning to get married should contact the Lead Pastor as early as possible. This allows time to schedule premarital counseling and increases the likelihood that both the church facilities and the minister will be available on the preferred date. With some exceptions, the Lead Pastor does not do weddings for those who have no connection to First Pres. A guest minister who is to conduct the ceremony must be invited to do so by the Lead Pastor.

3. **Building Costs:**

	Member	Non-Member
Sanctuary	N/A	\$200.00
Chapel	N/A	\$50.00
Sanctuary Custodial Fee	\$125.00	\$125.00
Chapel Custodial Fee	\$25.00	\$25.00
Reception Custodial Fee	\$100.00	\$100.00

The seating capacity for the Sanctuary is approximately 500. The seating capacity for the Chapel is approximately 40. Use of the building for a wedding must be approved by the Session. The Session meets the second Monday of the month. Saturday night weddings (after 5:00 p.m.) require special approval.

4. **Ministerial Honorarium:**
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| Couple's discretion | \$175.00 |
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Guest ministers have their own fee schedule.

5. **Music Fees:**
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| Organist | \$150.00 | \$150.00 |
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A guest organist/accompanist must receive permission from our church organist. Guest organists may have their own fee schedule.

6. **Sound Technician:**
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| \$50.00 | \$50.00 |
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The fee is required only if someone is needed to operate the Sound Booth in the Sanctuary. Most weddings will not require this. Only personnel authorized by First Pres are allowed to operate the Sound Booth.

7. **Payment:**
Payment should be made no later than the day prior to the ceremony.

8. Flower Petals:
If flower petals are to be dropped, imitation petals of non-staining material must be used.
9. Candles:
Non-drip candles only are to be used.
10. Photographs:
Flash pictures are forbidden during the worship service.
11. Rehearsal:
Date and time of the rehearsal, if it is not the night before the wedding, needs to be cleared through the church office.
12. Dressing Rooms:
A Brides' Room is available. A Grooms' Room can be arranged upon request.
13. Receptions:
Fellowship Hall has a seating capacity of approximately 250.
Custodial Fee;

\$100.00	\$175.00
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14. Other Guidelines:
NO alcoholic beverages are allowed.
NO throwing of rice or confetti is allowed in or on the church property (You may use birdseed outside the building.)
NO smoking in the church building.

It is the responsibility of the couple to inform their family and guests of all the above policies.