

Wedding Guidelines

We are pleased to welcome couples to our church to celebrate their wedding ceremony. Our understanding of a wedding performed in our church is this not only celebrates the love and public commitment of the bride and groom to each other, it is also a service of worship of God. With this understanding, we ask these guidelines be followed:

1. Confirm the wedding and rehearsal date with the church administrator. A deposit is required to reserve the wedding date.
2. Check for the pastor's availability.
3. Pay all appropriate fees in addition to the deposit, and fill out the required forms. These can be confirmed with the church administrator.
4. The church's wedding coordinator will be the liaison between the church and the wedding party, confirming dates, opening and locking the building as necessary, answering questions, assisting the pastor with the rehearsal and the ceremony.
5. If someone other than the church's pastor is to officiate at the wedding, they must be approved and invited by the pastor. Please give name and contact information of your officiant to the wedding coordinator. We ask only those ordained by a recognized denomination officiate weddings in our sanctuary. *(Those ordained by Universal Life, or other internet ordination, may not officiate.)*
6. The wedding ceremony, readings, and music are chosen in consultation with the minister.
7. The couple needs to obtain a wedding license at least three days before the ceremony from Whatcom County, or other county in Washington State. Both bride and groom must be present and bring cash for the license. The license should be given to the minister by the rehearsal.
8. We ask that you leave the church as you found it. Please designate someone from the wedding party to be responsible for taking with them all of the wedding party's possessions, as well as decorations. (If you would like to leave flowers for Sunday morning worship, please let us know ahead of time.)
9. Please let photographers and guests know ahead of time there are no flash pictures during the ceremony.
10. Videographers and photographers need to consult with the minister on where they are allowed to take pictures during the ceremony.
11. There is no alcohol allowed.
12. There is no smoking inside the building or on church property.
13. Children must be supervised at all times.
14. Please do not use things such as rice, birdseed, or flower petals, as this will cause forfeiture of the damage deposit.
15. You are welcome to use the church's grand piano.
16. Any special arrangements should be discussed in advance with the Wedding Coordinator or church staff.