

INTRODUCTION

Wake Forest Presbyterian Church extends congratulations on your decision to be married. We want to do all we can to make your wedding day a beautiful and memorable occasion.

We believe that a Christian wedding is a worship of God who calls a man and a woman together in marriage. That being said, when you decide to be married in a church, you are affirming your love for Christ and His Church, while affirming your love for one another. It also means that you have chosen to exchange vows with one another in a Christian worship service, and as such, the service will reflect the love and respect of God's presence.

Finally, this means that as a church, we will give you all the warm and prayerful support you need, not only as you prepare for your wedding day, but also as you begin your married life together.

PASTORAL MINISTRY

One of the pastors of Wake Forest Presbyterian Church will preside over all weddings. Other ministers (family, friends) may be invited by them to assist at your request. At least 90 days before the requested wedding date the prospective bride and groom will make an appointment for a premarital interview with the officiating pastor. After the interview the pastor will confirm the wedding date and schedule several pre-marital counseling sessions with the couple. The pastor and the couple will coordinate the wedding service together.

Since the pastor acts as the agent of the state of North Carolina in a wedding, the required license must be brought to the church at the rehearsal in order that the certificate can be completed. The pastor will complete it, have members of the wedding party sign it at the rehearsal, and return the license to the State.

MUSIC

Music is an integral part of the wedding. In addition to having special meaning to the bride and groom, the music should enhance and relate to the reverence of the service. A church accompanist will play for all weddings when available, and if unavailable, will suggest a substitute. Music selections may be chosen from a list provided by the accompanist.

All other music and musicians must be approved by the officiating pastor, after consultation with the church's accompanist or music director, as appropriate for the worship setting of your wedding. Church soloists may be available if desired. As soon as the wedding date is set, consultation should be scheduled with the accompanist.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

The Wedding Guild is responsible, under guidance from the pastor, for assisting the wedding party with plans and preparations, opening and closing the church for rehearsal and wedding, and coordinating the wedding based upon the pattern established at the rehearsal. If you have your own wedding director, this person must consult with the church's wedding coordinator, and abide by the Church's guidelines.

REHEARSAL

The pastor and the couple together will schedule the rehearsal in conjunction with the accompanist. The bride and groom are responsible for notifying all members of the wedding party of the time and place of the rehearsal. Approximately an hour should be allotted for the rehearsal in planning other events.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

While we support each couple's desire to record their wedding in pictures, we must remember that the wedding service is a sacred occasion of worship before God. Therefore, the taking of pictures must not detract from the worship experience. Photographers or guests are not permitted to take flash pictures in the sanctuary during the wedding service. The service begins with the processional. Videographers may not use supplemental light. Natural light photography and videography may be performed from the rear of the sanctuary during the ceremony if done discreetly and inconspicuously or in an area approved by the wedding coordinator. Pictures may be posed in the sanctuary before or after the guests have arrived and departed. Pictures may be made without restriction (unless imposed by the bride and groom) in the Christian Life Center, narthex, and outside the building.

FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

Our Sanctuary does not require elaborate decorations. All plans for decoration should be discussed with the wedding coordinator. If a florist is to provide flowers, they should schedule with the wedding coordinator a time when the building will be open for delivery and decorating. In decorating the Sanctuary the following rules must be observed:

1. Chancel furniture may not be moved from their positions and may not be used to hold flowers or decorations. Two flower stands are available to hold flowers in the sanctuary.
2. Any floral arrangements, potted plants or palms must be placed on saucers to prevent water leakage. With adequate protection underneath, flowers may be placed in windows.
3. Adequate precautions must be taken to protect furniture and carpets from the dripping of melted wax if candles are used. No candles may be used on the aisles
4. The cross may not be obscured by any floral or other arrangements.
5. The lighting in the sanctuary may be adjusted to suit your taste. Please consult the wedding coordinator for assistance.
6. No tape, tacks, or attachments to the walls may be used.
7. Only bird seed or bubbles may be used OUTSIDE the church. Please, no rice.
8. Preparation and provision of wedding programs, if they are to be used, are the responsibility of the wedding party with consultation of the pastor and the wedding coordinator.

ADDITIONAL CHURCH POLICIES

1. No smoking is allowed in the building.
2. No alcoholic beverages, food or drink are allowed.
3. A separate fee schedule lists all charges for the church facilities and personnel.
4. Weddings scheduled when special decorations are used in the sanctuary, must use the decorations in place and may not make changes to them.
5. Weddings for non-members, and normally for members, will not be scheduled on holidays, during Holy Week, or during Advent.

*SUGGESTED OUTLINE OF
A CHRISTIAN WEDDING
SERVICE*



Processional

Sentences of Scripture

Statement on the Gift of Marriage

Prayer

Declarations of Intent

Affirmations of the Families & Friends

(Hymn or Special Music)

Scripture and Message

(Hymn or Special Music)

Vows

Exchange of Rings

Prayer (and The Lord's Prayer)

Announcement of Marriage

Benediction

Presentation of the Couple

Recessional

Wake Forest Presbyterian Church wants your wedding day to be a memorable celebration. It is our hope that these guidelines will help you with the many questions and decisions that you may have as you are married. Please remember that the marriage service is worship for the glory of God and Jesus Christ. Accordingly, discretion should be used in planning the service. If you have any questions, please contact the pastor or wedding coordinator. We will be happy to help you.

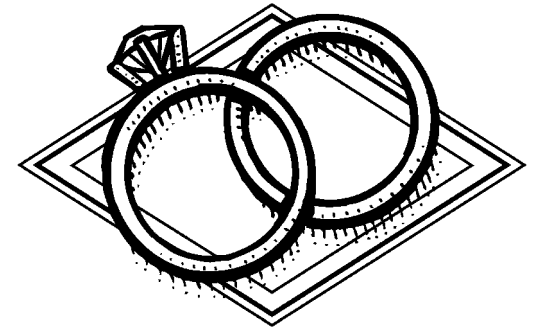


NAMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Senior Pastor		556-7777
Susie Vogt	Accompanist	556-6417
Karen Pettyjohn	Accompanist	562-1693
Sandie Buda	Wedding Guild Chairperson	846-9427
Fax		919-556-6245

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*Planning
Your
Wedding*

at

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