

POLICIES & PROCEDURES FOR WEDDINGS AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion opens its doors to both members and non-members for weddings. Zion does have potential costs for those desiring to be married at the church. It also has a set of policies and procedures that each couple is asked to adhere to as closely as possible. (NOTE: The use of Zion's fellowship hall and kitchen falls under a separate policy and can be obtained from the church office. Specific costs for the use of the hall are included on the Wedding Fees sheet.)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

PLANNING

1. Each couple planning to be married at Zion is expected to meet with the Pastor, and/or the Pastor's representative six to 12 months prior to the wedding for planning and premarital counseling. A pre-marriage course or pre-marriage counseling is required. Options will be made available by the Pastor, depending on the couple's circumstances.
2. The church's organist is available for weddings and may be contacted for a music consultation. Other arrangements are made with the Pastor. Music on CD is also possible with advance approval.
3. Pre-scheduled congregational activities may make the use of the fellowship hall impossible for both members and non-members. The building is not reserved until a signed contract and deposit are received.
4. Zion requests that discretion be used in selecting children of sufficient age who are able to follow instructions well and not distract from the service.

FEES/HONORARIA

5. Members may give the Pastor an honorarium at their discretion, while an honorarium is included in the total cost of the wedding for non-members.
6. ALL fees for the church MUST be presented to the Pastor or Venue Coordinator prior to the wedding rehearsal. Checks should be made payable to Zion Lutheran Church.

SERVICE

7. The Pastor and/or organist reserve the right to refuse a selection of music that may not be appropriate for this particular sacred service.
8. The church provides janitorial services. A fee is included for this service.

9. Zion does NOT provide an aisle runner. An aisle runner must be utilized if loose petals are used. Clean-up of the petals shall be the responsibility of the party reserving the church.
10. The use of video recording is permitted during the wedding ceremony. The set-up of all recording devices will be discussed with the Pastor or his/her representative. (NOTE: The taking of pictures may NOT take place during the wedding ceremony. A professional photographer may take pictures after talking in advance with the Pastor.)
11. Rice, birdseed, or any other small items may NOT be thrown when a couple exits the church.
12. Due to the sacramental nature of the wedding, and out of respect for God and this congregation, members of the wedding party are prohibited from being intoxicated during rehearsals and the wedding. If such abuses occur the Pastor will NOT officiate at the wedding.
13. Bulletins and wedding candles are the financial responsibility of the wedding couple.
14. The current pastor of Zion will officiate at ALL weddings held at Zion. Partnerships with other clergypersons will be possible only after discussion with the Pastor.