



GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH WEDDING POLICY

A wedding conducted in a Christian church and/or by a member of the clergy is a service of worship of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Christian marriage is to be understood as a part of Christian discipleship. Our church is not a venue. It is a house of worship. Our pastor is a called servant of God to our congregation, not a free agent for conducting weddings. We believe that those couples desiring to be married in our church and/or by our pastor should be regularly present in worship. If one or both of the engaged couple lives locally, our expectation is that they will be present for worship at Gethsemane both before and after the wedding on a regular, ongoing basis. Those who live a distance away and desire to be married at Gethsemane can be assisted by our pastor in finding a church to attend. The expectation for regular worship remains the same.

The following guidelines have been developed to assist you in planning your wedding. Please refer to these anytime uncertainties arise. If you cannot find an answer to your question, please contact the pastor at the church offices, 906-788-4234 or 906-753-4932. It will be most helpful if you consult with the pastor before making any plans that are not referred here.

The Order for Service

1. The wedding service is a worship service of the Church. In it, you pledge your love and fidelity to one another and ask God to bless your union. Because of its serious nature, the sacred character of the service must be reflected in your planning.
2. It is proper at the time of the engagement that you make your intentions to marry known to the pastor. The dates of the wedding rehearsal and wedding should be arranged personally with the pastor.
3. At the time you contact the pastor, up to six appointments will be made. Contact the pastor at least three (3) months in advance of the rehearsal for these appointments. Expect to make a check out to **Life Innovations, Inc.** for the cost of premarital materials, usually around \$35.00.
4. **Altar Paraments:** The church year seasonal colors will be used and there will be no changes for "wedding colors".
5. **Altar Flowers:** Altar Flowers ought to be in accordance with what is considered proper for any worship service in the Church. Flowers may remain for the Sunday service unless otherwise specified. The use of artificial flowers is prohibited. However, silk flowers are permissible.
6. **Candles:** Extra candelabras shall be furnished by the couple. Gethsemane owns two (7 arm) candle candelabras which are available for use. Altar candles are provided by the church.
7. **Music:** The wedding is a Christian celebration which is centered in the Word of God, therefore, all music (processionals, recessionals, solos, preludes, hymns, etc.) shall be in keeping with the spirit of Christian worship.



GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH WEDDING POLICY

8. **Pictures:** Flash pictures will be permitted during the ceremony following consultation with the pastor or presiding minister.
9. **Videos:** A wedding video may be taken during the service. Discretion should be used.
10. **Musicians** should be secured by the couple and should be present for the rehearsal.
11. **Facilities:** Any room used by the wedding party must be cleaned and straightened following the wedding and/or reception.
12. **Rehearsal:** Be specific as to who is to come to the rehearsal. All groomsmen and bridesmaids, together with ring-bearer(s), flower girls, ushers and acolytes must be present for the rehearsal.
13. **Remunerations:** The Congregation Council of Gethsemane has set the following fees for remuneration for the following:

Pastor	\$150.00
Custodial Fee	25.00

Remunerations are to be presented to the pastor at the time of the rehearsal. The custodial fee may be given to the pastor. If issuing a check a check, please make them out accordingly:

Pastor	Rev. Corinne R. Johnson
Custodian	Consult with the church office for contact information