

HOPE LUTHERAN CHAPEL WEDDING POLICY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Weddings are a service of worship and the church provides a place as a service to the couple. Clear arrangements need to be made for a wedding to be beautiful and worshipful. Polite consideration for the church is asked of each couple and the guests. The wedding in the church is to draw attention to the relationships of the couple to God and to each other before God's Altar and under the Cross. Anything that draws attention elsewhere is discouraged.

GENERAL POLICY

1. One of the participating couple shall be a member or a prospective member of Hope Lutheran Chapel to be eligible for full use of the church facilities.
2. At his discretion, the Pastor may use either his office or the chancel for a private wedding (member or non-member) and small wedding party.
3. See attached guidelines for use of the church.
4. When a wedding is anticipated, a conference should be arranged with the Pastor at the earliest possible time; after which a date is cleared on the church office calendar for rehearsal, wedding and reception. Wedding on Saturday night should be started no later than 7:00 p.m.
5. Premarital conferences are to be scheduled with the pastor for marriage preparation. The pastor shall be in charge of and shall conduct the service, but may be assisted by another **Lutheran** minister with approval of the Elders.
6. The approved applicant shall be responsible for the conduct of wedding party and their guests.

WEDDING INFORMATION - REHEARSAL, CEREMONY, RECEPTION

1. **Church Etiquette:** **NO** smoking in the church building. **NO** rice, bird seed, or confetti will be thrown in the sanctuary, vestibule, fellowship hall or anywhere in the church building. **NO** furniture, pianos, or other fixtures may be moved without first consulting the trustees or custodian. Special care shall be exercised in moving any objects so the floor or carpet will not be damaged.
2. **Rehearsal:** the same regulations are in effect during the time of the rehearsal as during the ceremony. (see#1 above.) Members of the wedding party are to be on time.
3. **Music:** The pastor will approve all hymns and songs used. It should be understood that secular popular music is in appropriate for a Christian ceremony and will not be used and should not be requested. It is not mandatory that our regular church organist be used but it is highly recommended. She is familiar with the organ, the building and the procedures and thereby more capable of rendering the best service. Vocalists will contact the organist directly to arrange practice times.
4. **Pictures:** A wedding is a sacred act in the church; therefore, flash photographs that take away from the ceremony are not to be taken after the bride has entered the sanctuary. Please notify the **FAMILY AND PHOTOGRAPHER** of this.
5. **Children** at rehearsal and wedding **must be supervised** at all times by an adult.