

Weddings

AT WORTHINGTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Congratulations!

We share in your happiness as you prepare your wedding plans and begin the beautiful adventure of marriage. We are anxious to serve you and to do our best to make your wedding day one that is God-glorifying and the joyous occasion that you anticipate.

The Wedding Handbook has been created to provide information and structure to your planning process. We have tried to anticipate your questions and sincerely hope that this handbook will be a valuable resource to you as you prepare for your wedding.

Please feel free to contact us any time that you have a question. With great Christian joy, we are at your service.

The Wedding Ministry of Worthington Christian Church

Laurie Carter

Wedding Coordinator

614-985-0501

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Eligibility & Scheduling

ELIGIBILITY

Generally, weddings are performed at Worthington Christian Church for members only. Anyone else wishing to have a wedding here must meet with one of our ministers before their request will be considered. Call the church office at 614-885-8389 to make an appointment.

SCHEDULING

A wedding may be scheduled for anyone who is a member or regular attendee. A regular attendee is someone who:

- ❖ Completes the What We Believe course.
- ❖ Completes our marriage mentoring course.
- ❖ Attends worship services twice a month for at least six months.

I. Wedding Date

To schedule a date for your wedding, call the church office and speak with the administrator. She will advise you of available dates and will pass on your information to the wedding coordinator, who will then contact you.

II. Minister

A Worthington Christian Church minister must perform the ceremony. A non-Worthington minister may only assist a Worthington minister. You may request a specific minister to perform the ceremony, but a minister is typically not assigned to a wedding until six months before the wedding date, so his availability cannot be determined until then.

III. What happens next?

- A. The wedding coordinator will contact you about meeting to schedule your marriage mentoring (first-time marriage) or pre-marital counseling (subsequent marriages).
- B. The bride and groom will meet with the wedding coordinator to begin outlining the details of the ceremony.
- C. The bride and groom complete the marriage mentoring or counseling.
- D. The coordinator contacts you about 3-4 weeks before your wedding to settle the final details of your ceremony. Final payment is due at this time.
- E. The bride and groom will meet with the minister presiding over their ceremony about 3-4 weeks before the wedding. You should call the minister at the church office (614-885-8389) at this time to set up an appointment.

Fees and Time Frames

MEMBERS	\$475 ceremony (without video presentation) \$550 ceremony (with video presentation)	\$350 reception in FLC
NON-MEMBERS	\$605 ceremony (without video presentation) \$680 ceremony (with video presentation)	\$600 reception in FLC
ADDITIONAL CHARGES	\$75 video \$25 candelabras	

Your fee covers all the items and personnel mentioned below. Musicians and soloists are not provided by WCC nor are they included in the fee structure — you must contact them on your own. Please ask the wedding coordinator for a breakdown of expenses.

DEPOSIT

A \$100 deposit is required when you schedule your wedding. It is due within one month of scheduling. Receipt of this deposit by the church office will officially reserve your wedding date. The balance of your fee is due one month prior to your wedding date.

Please make your check payable to Worthington Christian Church.

WHAT IS PROVIDED

The fees include the following:

- ❖ Use of the facility
- ❖ Minister
- ❖ Wedding Coordinator
- ❖ Wedding Facilitator
- ❖ Sound Technician
- ❖ Marriage Mentoring

For second marriages, the initial assessment with WCC counselors will be free, but any recommended counseling must be completed at the couple's expense.

TIME FRAMES

You are allotted 4½ hours for the wedding ceremony and pictures. Your rehearsal should take no more than 1½ hours. This can vary, but you will need to discuss it with the wedding coordinator. Please make sure you are on time and notify the entire wedding party if times change!

It is very important that you stay within your time frame.

Pre-Marital Counseling and Marriage License

MARRIAGE MENTORING OR PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING

Marriage mentoring (first-time marriages) or pre-marital counseling (subsequent marriages) is required before a couple may be married at Worthington Christian Church. The wedding coordinator will work with you to set this up. This is mandatory.

LICENSE

You must have a valid marriage license in order to be married. These are issued by your Ohio county of residence. If neither of the couple is a resident of Ohio, a license will be issued from Franklin County. Call the county office for details.

- ❖ Website: <http://www.co.franklin.oh.us/probate/departments/marriage.cfm>
- ❖ Main office phone number: 614-462-3898
- ❖ Fee is \$50, cash only

Please bring your marriage license to the rehearsal so that the appropriate signatures can be obtained at that time.

Facilities and Guidelines

I. Worship Center

Our Worship Center seats about 700 guests. It has three aisles which are 100 feet long and 8 feet wide. There are 17 pews along either side of the center aisle.

II. Bride's Room

We provide a room for the Bride and her attendants to dress and relax in before the ceremony. It is Room 133, located inside the west door under the portico. Inside the room is a full-length mirror, and a private restroom is attached.

III. Groom's Room

We provide a room for the Groom and his groomsmen to wait in before the ceremony. It is Room 102, the choir room, and is located on the north side of the Worship Center. There is ample space for dressing and there are restrooms located nearby. Right outside this room is the door through which the men will enter for the ceremony.

IV. General Rules for Facility Use

- A. No smoking in the building and no alcoholic beverages on the premises.
- B. Rice, birdseed, or silly string is not permitted inside or outside the buildings. Bubbles may only be used outside. Please use your best judgment and contact the wedding coordinator with questions.
- C. Food or drinks cannot be brought into the worship center.
- D. For safety and security, children need to be supervised when they are in the building. Due to liability concerns, we cannot provide a room for babysitting during the wedding.
- E. Guests should park in marked parking spaces only. A limousine can be parked at the west entrance (under the portico) but the driver must remain with the vehicle at all times. Please remember to let them know.

V. Decorations

- A. You may provide your own unity candle. We will move the communion table to the platform for your unity candle arrangement.
- B. You may add floral arrangements to the platform and unity candle table.
- C. Candelabras may be used, but you must use ours. The cost is \$25 for the required drippless candles.
- D. You may decorate the pews along the aisle. Tacks or tape cannot be used on the pews. You may use rubber bands or ribbons.
- E. Candle stands are not permitted along the aisles.
- F. You may use an aisle runner — it should be at least 75 feet long. If possible, please bring the aisle runner to the rehearsal.
- G. Flower petals may be dropped on the aisle runner, but they cannot be red or any color closely related to red. If you are using silk flowers, then you can use any color. If you do not have an aisle runner, flower petals must be silk.
- H. Nothing can be placed on the piano or organ.
- I. We can provide a small stand for a memory candle or special floral arrangement.
- J. Decorations that have not been listed must be cleared with the wedding coordinator.
- K. Any decorations left at the church after the ceremony will be discarded.

VI. Receptions

- A. Our facility is available for wedding receptions. We can provide table seating for up to 250.
- B. There is a separate price structure for receptions.
- C. For your reception fee, we provide use of the Family Life Center, set up and use of our tables and chairs, personnel to supervise your use of the kitchen, serving help if necessary, and clean up. We do not provide food preparation, centerpieces or decorations.
- D. Caterers are welcome, but use of the kitchen is limited to the sink, counter tops, and the ice machine.
- E. Father/Daughter, Mother/Son and Couple's First Dance are permitted on premises — all other dancing is prohibited.

Ceremony

Following is an outline for a typical wedding ceremony at Worthington Christian Church. Most ceremonies last around 30 minutes.

- 1. Pre-service music.**
- 2. Lighting of the platform candelabras**
 - A. Lighting takes place about 10 minutes before the ceremony.
 - B. Usually done by two groomsmen.
- 3. Seating of the Parents.**
 - A. This officially begins the ceremony.
 - B. Mothers escorted by their husband, son or groomsman.
 - C. Mothers each light one of the candles in the unity arrangement.
 - D. A special song is often performed here.
- 4. Unrolling the aisle runner.**
 - A. Usually done by two groomsmen.
- 5. Bridal Processional.**
 - A. The men enter from the door behind the piano and stand near the center aisle to wait for the women.
 - B. The women enter from the back of the Worship Center and walk down the center aisle. The men may meet them at the end of the aisle, or half-way down the aisle.
- 6. Welcome by the Minister.**
- 7. Declaration of Intention (first part of vows for bride and groom).**
- 8. Presenting the Bride.**
- 9. Scripture Reading.**
- 10. Bride & Groom step up onto the platform. Minister stays on floor facing them.**
- 11. Wedding Message by the Minister.**
- 12. Exchange of Vows.**
- 13. Exchange of Rings.**
- 14. Lighting of the Unity Candle.**
 - A. A special song is often used here.
- 15. Minister leads a prayer for the couple.**
- 16. Pronouncement of Marriage.**
- 17. Presentation of the Couple.**
- 18. Recessional.**

We want your ceremony to be your own. This outline is provided as a guide only. The wedding coordinator and Minister will work with you to determine the details for your specific ceremony.

Scripture Selections

Any scripture passages you use need to be approved by the officiating minister. Following are some typical marriage-related selections.

I. Old Testament.

- A. Genesis 1:26; 2:4-7, 18-22, 24
- B. Ruth 1:16-17
- C. Psalms 29:1-2; 34:3; 37:4; 63:1-4; 95:1-6; 100; 127; 128; 150
- D. Proverbs 3:4-5; 18:22; 24:3; 4; 31:10-31
- E. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
- F. Song of Solomon 2:11-13; 5:15; 6:3 8:6, 7a
- G. Isaiah 61:10; 62:5
- H. Jeremiah 33:11; 32:38; 29
- I. Hosea 2:19-20

II. New Testament

- A. Matthew 19:4-6 Christ's statement on marriage
- B. John 2:1-11 Christ at the marriage in Cana
- C. John 15:9-17 Christ's command to love
- D. John 17:22-23 Christ's prayer for love and unity
- E. I Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient ...
- F. Ephesians 5:21-33 Roles of husband and wife
- G. Philippians 2:5-11 Attitudes to build marriage
- H. Colossians 3:12-17 Loving attitudes
- I. Hebrews 13:4 Sex in marriage
- J. I Peter 3:1-7 Teaching for wives and husbands
- K. I John 3:16; 4:7-19 Teachings on love

Music, Video Presentation and Photography

MUSIC

- I. All music in the ceremony is arranged by the bride and groom and must be approved by the wedding coordinator in advance.
- II. The wedding coordinator can provide you with a list of some instrumentalists and soloists from Worthington Christian Church who are available for weddings. Questions concerning repertoire, demo tapes and fees should be directed to the musicians.
- III. Music may be live instrumentation, vocalists, or CD. Your music arrangements will be discussed at length with the wedding coordinator so that all necessary information can be conveyed to the sound technician.
- IV. All details concerning your music must be finalized at least two weeks before your wedding, so that the sound technician can review them.
- V. Where possible, musicians should be present at the rehearsal for sound checks.

VIDEO PRESENTATION

- I. Showing a video during your ceremony is possible.
- II. Depending on the timing and complexity of your presentation, it may conflict with other responsibilities of the sound technician. The wedding coordinator will work this out with you.
- III. When a video is shown, an extra fee of \$75 is required.

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY

- I. The Worship Center will be available 2½ hours before the wedding for photographs. Times earlier than that are usually possible, but not guaranteed. Photographs should be completed at least 30 minutes before the ceremony is scheduled to begin (guests begin arriving then).
- II. During the ceremony, we request that a spirit of worship prevail. Therefore, the photographer should refrain from flash photography during the ceremony. A flash can be used during the bridal party processional and recessional.
- III. All positions of equipment and personnel should be unobtrusive to the ceremony.
- IV. After the ceremony, photographs can be taken in the Worship Center.

Worthington Christian Church Personnel

A. Minister

Current Worthington Christian Church ministers performing weddings are:

David Roberson, Senior Minister

Tony Cason, Music & Worship Minister

Lee Cox, Minister of Discipleship

Don Hooper, Singles & Young Adult Minister

Jay Scott, Youth Minister

Tom Sherrod, Children's Minister

A minister is assigned to your wedding based on their availability. Assignments are not usually made earlier than six months prior to the wedding.

B. Wedding Coordinator

The wedding coordinator is your main contact at the church. Her function is to help you plan your wedding ceremony, communicate all necessary information to the minister, wedding facilitator and sound technician, review the church's wedding policies with you and collect all fees. Contact the wedding coordinator whenever you have any question concerning your wedding here.

Wedding Coordinator: Laurie Carter
614-985-0501
laurabell@columbus.rr.com

C. Wedding Facilitator

The wedding facilitator attends your rehearsal and ceremony. Her function is to assist you at these events. She has received all the information about your wedding from the coordinator. She will be at the church 90 minutes before your ceremony begins. She sets up the equipment the church provides for your wedding: guest book podium, unity candle table, etc. She coordinates ceremony entrances. After the ceremony, she cleans up the Worship Center and any room used by the bridal party and prepares them for Sunday morning services.

The facilitator's duties do not allow time for her to decorate the pews or to distribute programs during the ceremony.

D. Sound Technician

The sound technician attends the rehearsal and ceremony. He coordinates all sound and music needs for your wedding. He will set up all necessary microphones and music stands at the rehearsal so that sound checks can be made for all musicians, Scripture readers, the minister and the bride and groom.

During the ceremony the minister will wear a lapel microphone. The groom also wears a lapel microphone, which is turned on only when the vows are exchanged.

Worthington
christian church

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August 2010