

## ***YOUR WEDDING***

A loving, committed relationship as a mutual blessing, and marriage is the context in which we fully attain that blessing. It is appropriate to ask God's blessing on your marriage. We are happy that you are considering using our Sanctuary for your wedding and we pray that in this sacred space with friends and family, God will indeed bless your union.

Your wedding is important because it celebrates the beginning of your marriage. As such, it is a special day that you will remember fondly for the rest of your life.

Our Sanctuary and other church buildings are used for a variety of purposes. We have established the following list of policies to insure that your wedding runs smoothly and that it doesn't conflict with other weddings or activities of the church. We ask that you observe these policies and ask your guests to do the same.

### ***POLICIES***

1. Weddings will not be scheduled at a time that would conflict with other church activities.
2. Confirmation of a date and time for your wedding will be final only after the church office:
  - ♥ Has received your "Request for Wedding Services" form (with the non-refundable deposit)
  - ♥ Has coordinated with the pastor, the church wedding hostess and the church organist
  - ♥ And has notified the couple that the time and date are confirmed.
3. Payment for all services is due prior to the wedding.
4. The couple must have a valid marriage license. They should inspect the license carefully to insure that it will not expire prior to the wedding date and that it is valid in Monterey County. Most licenses issued in the state of California are valid in any California county but there are exceptions. Persons from out-of-state will need to obtain a license in California. Call **(831) 755-5032** for information about obtaining a license or call the County Clerk's office at **(831) 755-5450**.
5. The Sanctuary seats 125 persons, and is to be used "as is." Furnishings are to remain in place with the following exceptions. Choir chairs may be removed from the chancel and the altar may be moved toward the rear of the chancel to make room for the wedding party in the chancel.
6. The Sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas from late November until after Christmas. These decorations will remain in place for weddings that take place during that period. The church fellowship hall is usually packed with items during the month of October for our annual rummage sale.
7. The baptistery is not available for any use during the wedding.
8. Photographers must coordinate with the pastor. The "rule of thumb" is that photographs are permitted as long as the photographer remains unobtrusive. Flash photos and flood lights are not permitted during the service. Please advise your guests not to take flash photographs during the service. The wedding party may gather in the Sanctuary after the wedding for posed photographs.
9. Smoking is not permitted in any church buildings. No alcohol will be consumed on church property, indoors or outdoors.
10. Because fresh flower petals stain the carpet, we do not allow fresh petals to be scattered on the carpet. However, we can provide silk flower petals for this purpose.
11. The church hostess represents the church. She will be in attendance at all weddings and rehearsals to assist the couple and the wedding party.
12. Couples are expected to utilize the services of the Christian Church pastor to conduct the wedding. The Christian Church pastor must approve any exceptions to this policy in advance.

## WEDDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

13. Couples are expected to utilize the church organist to provide organ music for the wedding. The Christian Church organist must approve any exception to this policy in advance.
14. Please ask members of the bridal party to be on time for the rehearsal and the wedding. If there are significant delays, the church may assess additional fees to compensate staff persons for their time.
15. Please instruct guests to throw birdseed outside the church building rather than rice.
16. After the wedding, couples may remove their floral pieces or leave them in place. Flowers left in place after the wedding become the property of the church.

### ***THE CHURCH CAN PROVIDE***

- ♥ Candleholders and candles for the altar
- ♥ A Unity candle
- ♥ White silk flower arrangements (These are quite lovely and coordinate well with our décor. Using them can save you hundreds of dollars.)
- ♥ Silk petals for use by the flower girl
- ♥ A lovely Victorian dressing room for the bride and her attendants
- ♥ A dressing room for the groom and his attendants

### ***THE CHURCH CANNOT PROVIDE***

- ♥ Fresh flowers   ♥ Photographer
- ♥ Babysitting services   ♥ Reception facilities

*Thank you in advance for helping us make your wedding  
a happy and memorable event*



### **THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

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