

Your Wedding

At

First Christian Church

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

**16377 Herriman Boulevard
Noblesville, In 46060**

Phone: (317) 773-4582

Congratulations!

A wedding ceremony is a significant statement of your commitment to become husband and wife. We share in your happiness as you formulate your wedding plans. We are honored that you have chosen First Christian Church for this special event. A Christian ceremony of marriage is an act of faithful worship, a sacred celebration of God's gift of your love. The wedding policy of First Christian Church is one that combines careful organization and planning for your wedding.

The cost of a wedding at First Christian Church is determined on the custodial costs, the organist's services, sound technician and the wedding hostess. **The fees are due one week prior to the wedding.** A list of the fees is attached.

Scheduling a wedding at First Christian Church

Reserving the church facilities is to be done through the church office as early as possible. Weddings are scheduled on a first come basis. Thought should be given to the area best suited for your wedding. Our sanctuary seats approximately 450. For a smaller more intimate service our chapel can seat a maximum of 50 and still provide the atmosphere for a church wedding. Receptions can be held in our Fellowship Hall depending on the number of guests invited. If you choose to have your reception at the First Christian Church, we would recommend you speak to the wedding hostess before a final decision is made. Our office phone number: 317-773-4582.

Marriage License

State law requires that a license be issued no more than 60 days in advance of the wedding date. The license is issued in the county in which you live. In Hamilton County, licenses may be obtained at the Hamilton County Courthouse in Noblesville. A driver's license, birth certificate or pass port can be used for identification. If you use the driver's license, it must have your correct address on the driver's license. **The wedding license is to be dropped off at the church office one week before the wedding or as required by the minister. If our minister is not performing the ceremony, please make arrangements with the officiator concerning your license.**

Consultation with the Minister

The minister from First Christian Church is available to perform all weddings that are held at the church. If you desire to have another minister perform your wedding service, he/she is required to contact the minister of First Christian Church ahead of time.

The number of consultations with the minister will be determined by the minister. He/She will offer suggestions and guidelines, using prescribed principles of our church along with your creativity and expectations, to facilitate a service that will be pleasing and meaningful for both of you. These consultations will take about an hour to an hour and a half for each session. These sessions will be arranged directly with our minister.

Music

Music is an important part of any worship service. With thoughtful planning, it will be a special blessing to you and your wedding guests. If organ or piano music is desired, the organist of First Christian Church should be contacted directly. Our organist is more than happy to work with you in music selection by making suggestions and letting you listen to a variety of appropriate music. If you select music that is not in the organist's repertoire, sheet music would need to be provided prior to rehearsal.

Instrumental soloists, other than organ, are welcome. Any special music requiring co-ordination between the organist and a musical group should be cleared through the organist. All music selections must be gone over with your wedding hostess prior to the wedding day. This will be extremely helpful to cue all members of the wedding party the day of the wedding.

Rehearsal

Your wedding rehearsal is normally scheduled for the evening before the wedding. An early-evening time is preferable. The wedding hostess/minister will conduct the rehearsal. The courtesy of everyone involved being on time is greatly appreciated. It is recommended that the organist, sound technician and soloists attend. During the rehearsal, the following items will be covered: the processional, the recessional, ushering, scripture reading, candle-lighting, seating of parents/grandparents, duties of maid of honor and best man, and generally a complete "walk-through" of your wedding.

Photographers/Videos

You will want pictures of your wedding and the church is happy to cooperate with your photographer. Formal photographs may be taken either before or after the service. We encourage having as many pictures taken before the ceremony as possible. Videotaping must be done in one of the locations designated by the minister.

Your photographer needs to be very organized in the picture taking. Your goal is to finish all necessary picture taking quickly to allow you to most time possible with your guests at the reception. Remember the photographer works for you and you are in control. Tell them what you want and what time frame you wish to spend accomplishing it. If pictures are to be taken before, allow enough time to have that accomplished prior to guests arriving for the wedding.

Florist/Decorations

Flowers are a beautiful addition to your wedding. Your florist is welcome to stop by to gain a perspective of the sanctuary. Flowers may be placed on the communion table, the baptistery ledge, flower stands or at the base of the candelabra. Do not attach any decorations with tacks, nails, pins, tape or adhesives of any type as they will damage the surface. The use of floral wrapped wire is acceptable. **Only the use of artificial petals may be used by the flower girl.** The sanctuary and chapel are places of worship, the moving or removal of furnishings and decorations; need to be authorized by the minister or wedding hostess.

AISLE RUNNERS – NOT PERMITTED

Candelabra- The following are available for you to select from:

(candles will be provided, except for the unity candle)

- Two 9-branch candelabra
- Two 7-branch candelabra
- Eight aisle candelabra (w/glass tops)
- Unity candle holder
- Guest book stand
- Music stand
- Candle lighters
- Flower stands
- Kneeling bench

Decorations can usually be done the day before, depending on the activities of the church. Make arrangements with the wedding hostess for entrance to the church.

All decoration will need to be removed from the church after the ceremony.

Rice

Throwing of rice, confetti, birdseed, etc, is strictly forbidden. Due to environmental concerns, balloons may not be released. We encourage the use of bubbles. Please contact the wedding hostess or minister concerning the use of any other desired items. If any of the items that are forbidden are used an additional custodial charge may be assessed.

Dressing Rooms

Dressing Rooms are available for the Bride and her attendants in the church library. The men normally dress prior to coming to the church but a dressing area for the men can be arranged. First Christian Church is not responsible for personal items. Items left at the church will be available to be picked up at the Church office, during office hours, for two weeks.

Food should be kept to a minimum and would need to be kept in the Family room. No food or drink is allowed in the sanctuary.

The church is an **alcohol and smoke free environment**. Alcoholic beverages **MAY NOT** be served or smoking is not permitted on the church property. **PLEASE** be respectful of this policy and be sure your wedding party is aware of the policy and respects this policy.

(Adopted 8/7/00; Revised 1/7/02,5/5/03,11/7/05, 5/4/09, 11/13/10)

Worship Committee meeting 11/13/10

FEES

First Christian Church is open to all, there is no charge for the use of the sanctuary, chapel, family room and kitchen.

FEES THAT APPLY

Organist: \$175.00

Wedding Hostess: \$125.00

Wedding Hostess helper: \$25.00 per helper. The numbers of helpers will depend on the size of the wedding party.

Custodian: \$100.00

Reception Custodian: \$50.00

Sound Technician: \$100.00

Amended: 11/13/10