

## Wedding Ministry Guidelines

(Last Revised 8/12)

### Description of our Wedding Ministry

Marriage, because it belongs to God, carries a significance that reaches beyond and supersedes our culture and personal desires. For that reason a church wedding, rather than being a right or privilege of church membership is instead, a ministry that must reflect the values and intentions of God. For that reason the church must insist that certain behavioral patterns be agreed to - perhaps chief of which is an agreement of sexual purity from the time of the marriage application till after the wedding. Where applicants are living together, they must separate.

### Additional Considerations

1. Weddings are performed primarily as a ministry to CCC members of at least eight months active attendance.
2. Either the bride or groom can fulfill the membership requirement.
3. As such, monetary considerations are reflected for those who are members.

### Requirement for Officiating

1. Any male, ordained, and state licensed minister on staff at CCC may officiate a wedding.
2. Ministers not on CCC staff must be pre-approved by the CCC Eldership.

### Application Requirements

1. Weddings will be scheduled only after the completion of, and agreement to, the following criteria.
  - a. The intended officiating minister must be asked and agree to officiate the ceremony.
  - b. The CCC wedding application must be completed and approved by the officiating minister.
  - c. The wedding must be approved by CCC at least three months in advance of the ceremony.
  - d. The date and times of the rehearsal and wedding must be in keeping with the church schedule. (No weddings will be approved for New Year's (Eve or Day), Easter weekend, VBS (the weekend before or after), Thanksgiving weekend, or Christmas (Eve or Day)).
  - e. Pre-marital counseling is required according to the practice and wisdom of the officiating minister.
    - \* *Scheduling the required counseling is the applicants' - not the minister's - duty. Failure to satisfy the pre-marital counseling requirement will nullify the wedding scheduling and officiating of the event.*
    - \* *If through the counseling or other sources reasons are found to cancel the agreement for the church to host or the minister to officiate the wedding ceremony the minister and/or the Elders are free to do so.*
  - a. Fifty percent of all fees are to be paid at the time of application approval, with the remaining 50% being paid at least 30 days prior to the event. The initial 50% should be considered non-refundable.
2. Exception to any of the above criteria must be approved by the officiating minister and CCC Elders.

### Staff Fees

1. Custodial Fee - \$50.00
2. Sound Technician fee - \$50.00
3. Officiating Minister fee - \$100.00
4. Musicians and their fees will be the responsibility of the wedding party.
5. The non-member pre-marital counseling fee will be \$10.00 per session up to 6 sessions. (3 minimum)
  - \* *The Sound Technician must be one of CCC's approved technicians.*
  - \* *The officiating minister must be one of CCC's ministers unless otherwise approved.*

### Building Fees

1. Members of CCC are exempt from a building use fee, but will be asked to pay any damages caused by abuse.
2. Non-members will pay a \$350.00 building use (utility and use) fee plus any damages caused by abuse.

### Conditions of Building Use

1. Alcohol and illegal drugs are expressly forbidden on CCC property.
2. Tobacco products are expressly forbidden in the building and within 75 feet of the building's perimeter.
3. Inappropriate and offensive language and dress is expressly forbidden on CCC property.

### Alerts

1. All activities related to the wedding must be completed no later than 8:00 p.m. Saturday evening.
2. We fully expect and require that all the rules set forth in this document and the application be honored.