

PLANNING YOUR WEDDING AT GREENFORD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Our ministerial staff wants to be personally involved with each couple requesting a ceremony at Greenford Christian Church. As a church, we are much more than a building in which a ceremony is held, we are a congregation of people committed to doing what pleases God and what will most benefit those who seek him.

The following policies are designed to assist the prospective couple with positive help for a lasting marriage.

1. **Wedding Questionnaire**-read and fill out the wedding questionnaire and mail/email it back to: Greenford Christian Church, P.O. Box 53, Greenford, Oh 44422 or dyauger@greenfordchristian.org. Please include the read and signed building rental contract also. Once we receive both, you will get a written confirmation by mail.
2. **Pastoral Interview**-once the date is confirmed then the prospective couple will be notified to schedule an interview with the marrying minister.
3. **Communication Workshop**-is currently offered one Saturday in the spring and one Saturday in the fall.

It is our desire that your marriage be the happiest relationship possible, and that it be all God intended it to be.

God created man and woman, and from the beginning intended that they be joined in marriage so that each might give what the other lacked alone. Since God designed the marriage relationship, it makes sense that he knows best how to build a happy and lasting marriage.

As we read his word, we are able to discern basic principles which must be understood and applied if we hope to experience joy and fulfillment in marriage. Ignoring these principles will result in frustration and possible failure in the marriage relationship. Because we are committed to building strong marriages, we want to share the following policy guidelines. Our purpose is not to condemn or reject anyone, but to comply with God's principles for marriage.

MARRIAGE GUIDELINES

1. Only a minister from Greenford Christian Church may perform the ceremony. Another ordained/licensed minister may assist him upon approval.
2. A Christian is directed in scripture to marry only another Christian. If this is not your current situation, we would love to sit and talk with you.

3. We do not normally marry a couple if either of them has been divorced within the last twelve months. It is our desire to see a full spiritual, emotional and psychological healing following the tragedy of a broken marriage. We want to allow time for God to work in the heart of one who has experienced the pain of divorce.
4. We do not normally marry a couple if either person does not have the blessing of their parents. The ages of the people involved will be a factor in this situation.
5. We will not marry a couple if either person is under the influence of alcohol or non-prescription drugs during the wedding.
6. Pre-marital counseling is a must! Sessions should be scheduled with the minister a few months prior to the ceremony.

WEDDING CEREMONY GUIDELINES

1. Weddings will not be scheduled on Saturdays after 2:30 pm.
2. All rehearsals will begin promptly at the time scheduled regardless of whether all of the wedding party is present. People needed at the rehearsal are: bride and groom, best man, maid/matron of honor, groomsmen, ushers, bridesmaids, parents of the bride and groom, ring bearer and flower girl. Rehearsals generally last 60 minutes.
3. No flash pictures will be permitted during the ceremony. Photography will be limited to the use of available lighting. Photography and/or video-recording must be as inconspicuous as possible.
4. **Items supplied by the bride/groom for the wedding:**
 - Unity candles: you will need 2-4 of the 12"-14" candles, plus the center unity candle. The number depends on the minister and couple's ceremony preference.
 - Isle runner: approximately 62 feet long.
 - Any flowers, bows, etc.
5. The bridal party is responsible for the set-up and tear down of all of their decorations. The stage may already be decorated for a certain sermon series so nothing can be taken down from the stage. Please refer back to the Building Rental Contract for our set-up guidelines. Questions about decorating should be directed to the pastoral assistant.
-Stage, aisles, prep-rooms, and parking area must be cleaned by 5pm.
6. Tables available for a reception held at GCC:
 - 8- 8ft tables
 - 8- 6ft tables
 - 20- 60inch round tables with heavy, white vinyl table covers
7. Throwing rice (even biodegradable), birdseed, etc. is not permitted. Bubbles are permitted.

8. The bride and groom are responsible for securing a soloist and/or musicians if desired, as well as a sound technician and pastoral assistant, which are required. The sound technician must be a Greenford Christian Church sound technician. (Please refer to the “Wedding Services List” in the back of this booklet.)

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Listed below are the fees charged in conjunction with weddings. The building contract and fees should be made payable and sent to the Greenford Christian Church two months prior to the wedding. Member fees prevail when the bride or groom or a parent, son or daughter of either is a member. Membership status will be determined at the time the wedding date is confirmed. **Honorariums are to be given directly to the individuals involved on or before the rehearsal.**

BUILDING USE AND CUSTODIAL SERVICES

BUILDING C8	<u>NON-MEMBER</u>	<u>MEMBER</u>
(Maximum of 80 people at one time)	\$ 100	\$ 50
BUILDING D (Worship Center) (All Weddings)	\$ 400	\$ 200
Total Fee	\$ _____	\$ _____

TO ASSIST YOUR GUESTS

Because we are a multi-building campus, we suggest that you note “Building D” on your wedding invitations.

HONORARIUMS ARE PAYABLE DIRECTLY TO THE INDIVIDUALS RENDERING THE SERVICE

Minister	\$ 125
Pastoral	\$ 75
Sound Technician	\$ 75

(See the Wedding Services list on the back of this information guide)

