

Fees and Service Charges

The following fees have been fixed by the Session. The building fees are to be paid to the church upon booking the wedding immediately after approval is given by the Trustees. Clergy, hostess/custodian, organist, soloist and sound technician fees are to be made payable and given to those persons by check or cash two weeks prior. Bulletin fees are to be paid to the church. If for any reason wedding plans change, a full refund can be made three months prior to booked date.

Sanctuary Wedding

	Cost
Sanctuary	\$200*
Hostess/Custodian	\$130
Pre-marital counseling @\$35 each	\$35
Clergy	\$225
*Organist (rehearsal and wedding) organ accompanying vocalists or instrumentalists	\$225 \$30 ea.
Soloist	\$60
Sound Technician (rehearsal & wedding)	\$50
Video Taping (from fixed position in balcony)	\$50
Bulletins (bulletin content must be approved by Pastor)	\$30 per 100 \$5 add'l per 50
Wedding Decorations (white toole w/lights)	\$100
Westminster Hall for Reception	\$150*
Custodian for Reception (custodial charges for reception are in addition to the charges for the wedding)	\$90

*No charge for members of Community Presbyterian Church.

Your Wedding



Community Presbyterian Church

1111 East Madison Street

Lombard, Illinois 60148

630-627-0306

Preface

We are happy that you are planning to celebrate your wedding in a Christian service of worship. Because you have a desire to be married in this church, we assume that the Christian Church has a place of importance in your lives and that you are looking forward to a marriage that will be blessed by God and sustained by a serious relationship with this congregation as a community of God's people.

The church staff will be glad to assist you as you plan your wedding and trust that it will be a meaningful and memorable occasion for both of you, a fitting beginning to the establishment of a Christian home and family.

Even though marriage is a serious step for two people to take, Christian marriage is even more serious. We of Community Presbyterian Church want to be helpful to you, as you seek to understand marriage and the commitments you are making from the Christian perspective.

To set the context, we offer these excerpts from the Presbyterian *Directory for Worship*, (W-4.90000):

“God has ordained that a man and a woman may enter together into marriage, pledge their love and promising fidelity each to the other, as long as both shall live.

As Jesus Christ has blessed this relationship, and it has been declared holy throughout the life of the church, those who pledge themselves each to the other in the sight of God are promised God's help as they enter into the joys and duties of life together.

Humanly speaking, marriage is a civil contract among a man, a woman and the state. When a marriage is performed in the context of Christian worship, the proclamation of the gospel of reconciliation in Jesus Christ is a promise of blessing to the marriage. As the man and woman respond affirmatively to this proclamation, their marriage is in the Lord. This applies equally to first marriage, to marriage after the death of a spouse, and to marriage after being divorced.”

We rejoice that marriage is given by God, blessed by our Lord Jesus Christ, and sustained by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, let marriage be held in honor among all.

Rev. Dr. Stewart Pattison

Reception

The wedding reception may be held in the fellowship hall. Arrangements can be made for holding larger receptions in one of the fellowship halls or a smaller reception in the Geneva Parlor. It is understood that all rooms will be restored to their former condition when the reception is over. Caterers are available through the church on request. No alcohol is permitted on the premises.

License (for general information)

The marriage license is secured from:
The County Clerk, DuPage Center
421 County Farm Road
Wheaton, Illinois
Hours: Weekdays, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed Saturdays and all legal holidays

The fee for the marriage license is \$15.00 cash. A birth certificate is needed if either is under the age of 19. The officiating pastor requests that couples bring the marriage license with them to the rehearsal.

Sanctuary Decorations

“Flowers, decoration, and other appointments should be appropriate to the place of worship, enhance the worshipers’ consciousness of the reality of God, and reflect the integrity and simplicity of Christian like.” (The Book of Order W-4.9005)

Floral arrangements will be made by the bride or groom. If you desire, flowers from a Saturday wedding may be left at the church after the marriage ceremony for Sunday church services. Suggestions for locations of floral pieces are: on wall shelves, window ledges, small tables, or pews (i.e. “Pew Bows” or candles). Please consult the pastor or wedding coordinator if there is a question concerning the use of a particular type of decoration.

The church provides a Kneeling Bench and a Unity Candle Stand. If the stand is to be used, it is the couple’s responsibility to provide the necessary candles.

A 75-foot aisle runner may be purchased or rented from the florist of your choice.

No rice or confetti may be thrown - no balloons may be released.
Please use bubbles or birdseed instead.

Rehearsal

A rehearsal is advised for weddings in the sanctuary and is generally the afternoon or evening before. It is a time for sharing with the bridal party and families the plans you and the pastor have determined for your wedding service and what is expected of them in the service. These plans, including the service itself, ushers’ instructions, and special seating are finalized prior to the rehearsal. The pastor will direct the rehearsal.

For weddings not in the sanctuary, brief instructions concerning the service will be given at the time of the interview or just before the service itself.

The Time and the Place

Its members and friends to serve the community maintain this church. Its use is not restricted to members only. Those who will use it reverently and in good taste are welcome to its facilities. The date, time and place of your wedding ceremony will be established only after the couple’s initial interview with the pastor. The sanctuary is available for the marriage ceremony as well as the Geneva Parlor. The sanctuary can accommodate 220 people comfortably. Arrangements for a suitable date and time should be made with the pastor as early as possible in advance of the ceremony and cannot be considered final until the meeting with the pastor. If the bride or bridal party wishes to dress at the church, a request should be made to the pastor.

Any requests for a Sunday wedding will be considered only as it does not conflict with scheduled church activities.

Clergy

The normal procedure is that a pastor of this congregation will preside at all weddings conducted therein. However, arrangements may be made in special circumstances for other ministers to participate in the ceremony. All such arrangements must be made in consultation with the pastor.

Each couple is expected to arrange for an initial interview with the pastor as soon as they start formulating their wedding plans. The pastor will meet with them at least twice more to review not only wedding plans, but also attitude and goals in marriage. In addition, each couple is encouraged to participate in a one-day pre-marital seminar at Central DuPage Pastoral Counseling Center.

Order of Service

“Christian marriage should be celebrated in the place where the community gathers for worship. As a service of Christian worship, the marriage service is under the direction of the pastor and the supervision of the session.” (The Book of Order W-4.9003)

To aid you in the planning of your wedding, we will give you copies of two different services, one traditional and one contemporary. Both are from the traditions of the Presbyterian Church. You may choose either service, combine them or work with the pastor to develop your own marriage ceremony.

The music to accompany the ceremony should direct special attention to God who sanctifies marriage; and care should be taken to assure that it is suitable and reverent. The church organist is ready to assist and advise in selection of your music. Make an appointment directly with him as early as possible.

Photography

Photographs are NOT to be taken during the marriage service. The photographer may take pictures of the bridal party as they proceed down the aisle and after the conclusion of the service. If it is possible, if arranged with the pastor prior to the service, that time exposures may be taken from the Narthex and balcony. Scenes of their services itself can be reenacted after the conclusion of the services. Ushers shall advise guests carrying cameras not to take pictures during the marriage service.

Video

The use of video equipment should be as unobtrusive as possible. The pastor should be consulted on this subject. We wish to emphasize that the church marriage ceremony is a religious service.

Music

Although your wedding has very personal meaning, it is first and foremost a worship service. Since this is true, the music should reflect this God-centered focus. It should be in keeping with the traditions of the church and contribute to a beautiful and meaningful service. *“Music suitable for the marriage service directs attention to God and expresses the faith of the church. The congregation may join in hymns and other musical forms of praise and prayer.”* (The Book of Order W-4.9005)

The organist of our church will serve as organist at all weddings in the sanctuary unless the church organist and the pastor agree upon a substitute organist. The organist will work with you to choose music that is both enjoyable for you and appropriate to the worship service. Please get in touch with the organist as soon as you set your date. If the organist is available for the date, you can then schedule a time to get together and plan the music for the service. If the organist is not available, you will still have time to make other arrangements. Please do not wait to get in touch with the organist.

Music for the Prelude, Recession and Postlude are necessary. However, it can also be used as candles are being lit, flowers being distributed to parents or other places in the service. Vocal and instrumental solos are also appropriate during these times.

If a singer will be a part of your service, please work together with the organist to choose the music. Solos must be Christian in nature and God-centered. They may be accompanied on piano, organ or with other instruments. It is a good idea to avoid pre-recorded accompaniments. Live musicians are always preferable. We have microphones available if needed. Please reserve secular love songs for your reception. They are not appropriate for worship.

Please make all financial arrangements with soloists (other than the stated organist fees) directly. The organist will be at your rehearsal if at all possible. Please consult with the organist about choosing the music not later than one month before the ceremony. This will allow plenty of time to work out the best music for your special day.



The Marriage Symbol

Christian marriage is a covenant between two people who are in covenant with God. The covenant, which God has made with His people, is His promise to be their God and the privilege of a people to be His children. God's covenant with man is a covenant of love, which offers privileges and responsibilities. The Cross is a reminder of the covenant, which God has made with us. The rings tell us of man and woman made one in Him who makes us one with himself.