



## WEDDING POLICY

*The Church of Christ facilities are available to any active attenders who would like to be married in our church building. All individuals must understand and agree to all the following guidelines.*

1. All wedding dates must be scheduled and cleared by the church office and ministers at least sixty (60) days in advance.
2. Scheduling a date for a wedding is on a first-come-first-serve basis. However, priority is given first to Church activities, then to active Church of Christ attenders. You must attend Church of Christ on a regular basis to use the building for a wedding.
3. The ministerial staff of the Church of Christ will officiate at all wedding services. *Any exceptions* to this policy must be approved by the Senior Minister and/or Elders.
4. The minister(s) reserve(s) the right to refuse to marry any person that they feel they cannot scripturally unite in marriage. We are in no way standing in judgment of anyone but feel that we cannot compromise our spiritual ethics nor violate our conscience in our understanding of the teachings of Jesus Christ concerning marriage, divorce and remarriage.
5. None of the ministerial staff will officiate at a wedding service if any one of the ministers has refused to participate for reasons other than a scheduling conflict.
6. It is a requirement of the Church of Christ in St. Joseph that all couples that desire to be married here must go through at least four pre-marital counseling sessions with one of our staff ministers or another qualified minister or counselor.
7. There will be no smoking permitted in any section of the building. (This includes the outside glass foyer.) Absolutely no alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the premises at any time. A breach of the latter will result in the wedding/reception being canceled at the request of any of the ministerial staff or a church officer. Any member of the wedding party under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs will not be allowed to participate in the rehearsal and/or wedding upon the discretion of the officiating minister. If either the bride or groom is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, this could result in the immediate cancellation of the wedding ceremony or reception.
8. No food or beverages are allowed outside of the fellowship hall.

9. We ask that no confetti or streamers be used and that nothing be thrown inside the building or glass foyer. We also request that no balloons be released outside of the building.
10. A Wedding Coordinator is required for all weddings. This person shall be a Church of Christ member or attender who will be responsible for coordinating details with the couple and the officiating minister prior to the rehearsal/wedding as well as being involved with all the logistics of the rehearsal and wedding.
11. The wedding party will work with the wedding coordinator to secure instrumentalists, vocalists, sound/video technicians, and custodians to help with the rehearsal and/or wedding. Vocalists, instrumentalists, sound/video technicians, and custodians from the Church of Christ shall be paid according to the fee schedule in this policy. Sound/Video technicians and custodians must be from the Church of Christ.
12. Receptions may be held in the fellowship hall. The wedding party must schedule the use of the fellowship hall for a reception with the church office at least sixty (60) days in advance of the wedding date.
13. No weddings or receptions will be scheduled after 6:30 PM on Saturdays, and no more than one wedding may be scheduled on any given weekend.
14. Dressing rooms for the wedding party will be designated by the wedding coordinator.
15. All fees are payable 10 days before the rehearsal and are to be paid by check or cash to "Church of Christ."
16. If you cancel your wedding plans, you must notify the church at least thirty (30) days in advance of your set wedding date or you will forfeit your \$50.00 damage deposit.
17. All weddings are required to pay a refundable deposit of \$50.00 please contact Chris at 469-2207 or [ccox@sjcoc.com](mailto:ccox@sjcoc.com) for your fee amount.

# WEDDING CONTRACT

We, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, do  
(Bride) (Groom)

hereby agree to comply with the Wedding Policy and Fee Schedule of the Church of Christ at St. Joseph, Illinois.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bride's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Groom's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## APPLICATION TO BE MARRIED IN THE CHURCH OF CHRIST BUILDING

We, the Church of Christ family, believe that a wedding ceremony should be conducted in its entirety in the spirit of a worship service. The church building is a house of God; therefore, the rehearsal and ceremony should be dedicated to the worship of God in Christ Jesus. If you concur, please complete the following information:

Full name of bride: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Regularly attend what church? \_\_\_\_\_

Full name of groom: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Regularly attend what church? \_\_\_\_\_

Future address: \_\_\_\_\_

Minister to conduct the ceremony: \_\_\_\_\_

Will the reception be held in the church's fellowship hall? \_\_\_\_\_

Day and date of rehearsal: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Day and date of wedding: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Senior Minister)

Final approval of a wedding will be at the discretion of the Senior Minister upon completion of pre-marital counseling.

*Please submit the signed Wedding Contract and this completed Application with appropriate deposit to the Senior Minister or the Church Office.*