

Midway Presbyterian Church Wedding Policy and Guidelines

Congratulations! Your wedding is a happy and sacred occasion and we rejoice with you as you plan for your day of faithful promises. Christian marriage is a wonderful expression of grace and hope between two people. In the Christian tradition, we believe it is a covenant blessed by God through which two people are called to live out their lives together in witness to the love that God bears for the world. Marrying in a Christian setting, you make your vows to one another before God in the atmosphere of worship and you begin your marriage by making a conscious statement of your faith in the great goodness of God in Jesus Christ together and individually.

The Session of Midway Presbyterian Church has approved the following policies and guidelines to assist in the planning of your wedding. It is possible that conditions will arise which call for special attention. These can be discussed and any questions or issues may be resolved by meeting with the pastor.

Please read the following items carefully and address any questions with the pastor prior to signing.

Who May Use the Church

Couples may use the church at the Pastor's discretion. All shall be subject to the approval of the Session of Midway Presbyterian Church.

Selecting a Date and Time for the Wedding and Rehearsal

Plan as far in advance as possible when selecting a date for your wedding. We require a three-month notice be given in advance of the chosen wedding date. Weddings may not be planned during Christmas, Easter or Thanksgiving.

Three (3) premarital conferences are to be arranged with the pastor by the couple well in advance of the wedding date.

Couples choosing a morning wedding may have use of the Church from 8 a.m. until noon. Couples choosing an afternoon wedding may have use of the Church from noon until 4 p.m. Couples may also plan to have a rehearsal at the Church prior to their wedding day and shall determine the date and time of the rehearsal with the pastor.

Use and Care of the Church Before, During and After the Wedding

Areas Available for Use: The fellowship hall and the upstairs rooms are available for the bridal party to dress.

Flowers and Other Decorations: The florist will be held responsible for the protection of the premises, especially with regard to candle wax. Under NO conditions shall decorations be attached to the pews or other furnishings by pinning, gluing, or nailing, or other method that may leave permanent damage to church property. Candles for the sanctuary must be provided by the wedding party. No candles or open flames are permitted at any time in the fellowship hall.

Sanctuary Fixtures: The pulpit furniture and the Communion Table may be moved with the approval of the pastor.

Officiant

The pastor of Midway Presbyterian Church must be consulted, and shall officiate at all weddings. Because the pastor is responsible for wedding activities, any other clergy member’s participation must be discussed with and approved by the pastor.

Music

Keeping in mind that weddings are a service of worship, the music chosen should be in keeping with the reverence that is observed upon entering the house of the Lord. The bride and groom shall discuss the music to be played with the Church’s pastor and its organist. Guest organists or musicians must be approved by the pastor and the organist.

Photography/Videography

The use of flash photographic equipment is NOT permissible once worship begins. (Pictures of the bride entering and the bride and groom departing are acceptable.) Video photography from one fixed location in the back or upper sides of the sanctuary is permissible.

Prohibitions

There shall be no alcohol or tobacco used in the building or on the church grounds.

Fee Schedule for Midway Presbyterian Church

Your Contributions to Midway Presbyterian Church help further its mission in the community.

You will be supporting the Midway Community Garden, the Weekend Backpack Program, a Girl Scout Troop, a Community Youth Group, and two AA groups. You are helping us keep the lights on for Community discussions, and the heat for our Christmas Eve service. You will help this place continue to be a welcoming space where people experience the grace and love of God. Thank you.

Use of Sanctuary \$1,000, plus a \$500 security deposit

Fellowship Hall \$1,500, plus a \$500 security deposit

Cleaning \$250

Recommended Honorariums:

Pastor \$200
Organist \$200
Wedding Coordinator:** \$50

**All fees are due in full prior to, or at the time of the rehearsal. The \$500 security deposit(s) will be returned if the church and/or fellowship hall is left clean and damage-free.*

***The wedding coordinator is not a wedding planner, and will not provide the services of a wedding planner. The wedding coordinator is available to open and close the church and to assist with the use of the facilities during the rehearsal and before and during the wedding ceremony.*

By signing this document, we agree that we will abide by all the policies, guidelines, and fees herein described.

Signatures of the Couple

Date

Signature of Pastor (Witness)