LRUCC Wedding Policy

Christian Wedding. A church wedding at LRUCC is an act of Christian worship conducted by an ordained minister. While it is celebrative in spirit, it must not forsake the dignity associated with a devotional experience.

A member of the pastoral staff of the church shall officiate or co-officiate at weddings at LRUCC. Exceptions will be at the discretion of the Senior Pastor.

Same-Sex Weddings. We are an Open and Affirming congregation; LRUCC is available for same-sex weddings.

Pre-marital Counseling. The pastor officiating will generally ask each couple to meet for pre-marital counseling. The purpose of this counseling is to become better acquainted as pastor and couple, to reflect upon the nature and purpose of the marriage relationship as understood by the couple and the church, and to design the marriage service so that it is both personal and meaningful.

Scheduling and Rehearsal. In addition to scheduling a date and time for the wedding, a couple may also schedule a date and time for a rehearsal when the entire wedding party and the parents can be present. Often, the best time for rehearsal is the evening before the wedding.

Flowers. Flowers are a traditional part of weddings. Couples are welcome to use a private florist, or the pastor can put them in touch with the church members who usually arrange for church flowers. If couples plan on using an aisle runner, they should tell the florist it needs to be 75 feet in length and ask them to pin and tape it in place at the bottom of the step to the chancel. If the couple chooses not to remove their flowers after the service, the church will arrange for them either to be used in a subsequent service, or delivered to members and friends of the church.

Photography. Photography and videography of the wedding ceremony are permitted, but must not interfere with the dignity of the service. Photographers must be introduced to the pastor in advance of the ceremony so that he/she understands LRUCC's photography policies. Photography or videography from the front of the sanctuary generally is not permitted during the wedding ceremony, and flash photography is not permitted during the marriage service. Photographs not requiring a flash, and video tapes not requiring additional lighting may be taken from the rear of the church by your designated photographer. The photographer should generally not move about the sanctuary during the ceremony, and the side aisle and rear exit of the sanctuary may not be blocked by equipment of any kind. Photography at the front of the sanctuary is permitted following the wedding ceremony.

Sound. Use of the sound system is recommended unless you anticipate only a small number of guests who will cluster in the front of the sanctuary. The pastor will arrange for a member of the church to operate the sound system.

Chair Bows. Chair bows, sometimes used to designate reserved seating should be pinned to the upholstery, not taped.

Rice/Confetti. Rice and paper confetti are not permitted. Bird seed may be used outside the church. Flower petals, flowers, confetti, glitter and other items may not be strewn in the sanctuary. Soap
bubbles are permitted only in the social hall and outside the church building.

Music. The Director of Music will generally supervise wedding music. The pastor will help arrange a time for couples to discuss music with the Director of Music. Selections should be suitable to the occasion. If couples are having a vocal or instrumental soloist, or wish for a friend or relative to participate in the service, please consult with the Director of Music.

Use of Church Facilities. The Social Hall, Choir Room and Kitchen may be used for an additional fee. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the building. Caterers and others using the kitchen and Social Hall are responsible for leaving them clean.

One or more church meeting rooms can be made available to the wedding party for dressing and last minute preparations and storage of personal items. One room is equipped with a full-length mirror and sink.

Alcohol. No alcohol is permitted, with the exception of a toast to the couple, and only within the applicable rules of the Virginia ABC board.

Fees and Honoraria. There is no charge to church members for use of the sanctuary. The Board of Trustees posts recommended fees for building use, and the pastor officiating will consult with the couple regarding recommended honoraria.

Marriage License. Couples are responsible for obtaining their own marriage license.

Adopted December 9, 2015 by Governance Board