



# LoveJoy United

## Presbyterian Church

# Your Wedding

IF WE LOVE ONE ANOTHER, GOD LIVES IN US  
AND HIS LOVE IS MADE COMPLETE IN US.  
1 JOHN 4: 12 (NIV)



## Weddings at LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church

**Marriage is a wonderful gift of God and adventure!** Marriage holds the possibility of happiness that few other human experiences can match. Our task, as the church, is to assist those whom God has drawn together so that they may begin their new life in a meaningful and joyful manner. The church family at LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church celebrates with you at the beginning of your new life together and prays that it be under the grace and love of God.

Though marriage is a civil contract between two people, for Christians, it is also a covenant through which they are called to live out, together before God, their lives of discipleship. **The wedding ceremony is a service of worship** in which the couple, together with family and friends, praise God for a God's gift of love, seal their covenant before God, and ask God's blessing upon their marriage. Our goal is to help all who attend to celebrate generally, God's love for all people and specifically, the couple's love for one another.

This brochure is written to help you understand how weddings are conducted at our church. It is our desire to assist you so that your wedding will be a beautiful and joyful celebration.

POLICIES FOR WEDDINGS AT  
LOVEJOY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

		COST <u>*MEMBER</u>	<u>NON-MEMBER</u>
1.	Pastor Cost includes A. Consultations for planning wedding service B. Three (3) pre-marital counseling sessions C. Rehearsal D. Wedding Ceremony	\$200.00	\$200.00
2.	Director of Music/Organist 1. Financial arrangements to be made on individual basis. 2. Cost varies depending on number of consultations and rehearsals including both the wedding rehearsal and any extra rehearsals with musicians or vocalists.	\$150.00	\$200.00
3.	Custodian (sanctuary cleaning) Custodian (use of fellowship hall for reception)	\$100.00 \$100.00	\$100.00 \$100.00
4.	Sound Technician The sound technician is needed only if CD's will be used; otherwise, needed microphones can be turned on and set prior to the wedding. If used in Fellowship Hall an additional	\$ 50.00  \$ 50.00	\$ 50.00  \$ 50.00
5.	Building Use 1. Includes use of sanctuary & preparation/ dressing rooms for rehearsal & wedding day. 2. The person/s reserving the building will be responsible for the cost of repairing any damage to the facility. 3. Use of fellowship hall (hall only)	No Charge  No Charge	\$200.00  \$200.00
6.	Deposit	None	\$200.00
COST			\$1,300.00
Half of the deposit is forfeited if wedding is cancelled or there is damage to the building.		_____	- 200.00
TOTAL COST with fellowship hall use		\$ 650.00	\$1,100.00
TOTAL COST without fellowship hall use		\$ 500.00	\$ 750.00

**\*The term member means that either the bride, groom or their parents are a member of the church.**

**\*\*Have to be a member at least 6 months before wedding date.**

#### RESERVATION/PAYMENT OF FEES/LICENSE

- A. All reservations for use of the church facilities for rehearsals, weddings, and receptions must be recorded in the church office by the office staff and approved by the Session.
- B. Ordinarily, reservations are to be made at least 60 days prior to the wedding date.
- C. Weddings of non-members must be approved by the Session.
- D. Non-members will be required to pay \$200.00 at time of reservation. If wedding is cancelled, \$100.00 will be refunded.
- E. Preferably the license and balance of the total fees due should be brought to the 3<sup>rd</sup> or final counseling session. Fees and license must be brought to the church no later than start of the rehearsal or day before wedding ceremony if there is no rehearsal.

#### RULES

To ensure the integrity, beauty and safety of your wedding, LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church has adopted the following rules for your wedding:

- 1. No alcoholic beverages, no tobacco, and no smoking will be allowed on church premises. (Any alcohol on premises, building or parking lot, is an automatic forfeiture of the deposit.)
- 2. No food or drink allowed in the sanctuary.
- 3. Use of rice, bird seed, or confetti on church grounds is prohibited for safety reasons.
- 4. Use of silk flower petals, bubbles and bells are acceptable. Silk petals and bells may be used inside or outside but bubbles may only be used outside.
- 5. Anyone causing a disturbance during the rehearsal or wedding will be asked to leave
- 6. If power point is used, the church's sound technician must be used.

#### PRESIDING MINISTER

All plans for the wedding service are to be agreed upon by the couple and the pastor. Ordinarily, our minister will officiate at services conducted in this church. Participation of another minister in the ceremony requires the approval of Session and the invitation of the presiding pastor. Sometimes there is a clergy relative of the wedding couple or the groom's/bride's pastor who can be invited to participate thus increasing the meaningfulness of the service for all who attend.

#### COUNSELING

Out of genuine concern and a desire to help the couple achieve the happiness marriage can bring, three pre-marital conversations are required with the minister. These conversations will provide skills for and insights into marital life. The conversations should be conducted well in advance of the wedding. Each session lasts approximately one hour.

#### BUILDING USE

Building Use includes 5 hours on the day of the wedding, to include time for preparation, service, and photographs. The building will be open for the rehearsal for 1 hour. The minister will expect all members of the wedding party to be prompt to allow rehearsal and service to start on time.

### MUSIC

The music for the marriage service should be to the glory of God. Instrumental music, congregational singing and vocal specials are appropriate. However, love songs and other secular music may not be appropriate. The director of music can assist with appropriate musical selections. If a guest organist/ accompanist is approved, the music director will meet with that person for instruction on our instruments.

### COMMUNION

If the couple wishes to have communion at the wedding, permission can be granted by the session as long as an elder assists. LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church practices open communion, inviting all Christians to receive. The method used at weddings is to have bread dipped in wine or grape juice – a practice called “intinction”. If communion is celebrated, a hymn should be sung. Communion normally takes an extra 15 minutes.

### PHOTOGRAPHS/RECORDINGS

The couple and their families may provide or arrange for a photographer, if desired. Pictures may be taken before and after the service. Unobtrusive, stationary audio and videotaping may be permitted with the pastor’s approval. No flash pictures may be taken in the sanctuary during the service itself as such pictures detract from the spirit of worship.

### FLOWERS/DECORATIONS/AISLE RUNNERS

Arrangements of floral decorations, bows, banners, candelabra, etc. must be planned in consultation with the pastor. Any method of attaching flowers, bows, or other decorations to furniture, pews, or walls of sanctuary must be approved by the pastor. For safety reasons, aisle runners are not to be used.

### CANDLES/UNITY CANDLE

The church can make available a pair of candelabra with white candles. This is included in the building use fee.

A current tradition has been to have the couple light a “unity candle” as a sign of their equality in partnership. The decision to use a unity candle in the ceremony will be made jointly by the couple and the pastor. The couple is responsible for supplying the unity candle.

### FELLOWSHIP HALL

1. Use of Fellowship Hall does not include use of dishes, silverware, punch bowls, etc.
2. The couple will provide all food and serving items.
3. Custodial fee only includes mopping and taking out trash. Leftover food and other items brought in by the wedding party must be removed from the church premises following hall usage.