



FRESH START CHURCH

YOUR WEDDING AT FRESH START CHURCH

Congratulations to both of you on having made one of the most significant decisions of your lives! While we believe making Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior is the most important life-changing decisions you can make, choosing the one with whom you will spend the rest of your life in the sacred covenant of marriage is incredibly significant. Now that you have chosen to submit yourselves to one another, we encourage you to make and keep Christ the center of your engagement, your marriage and your home.

At Fresh Start Church (FSC), we are committed to working with you to see that your wedding places God at its center and that it is worshipful, memorable and personal. May God continue to bless you as you look to Him for guidance regarding this important event.

GENERAL WEDDING GUIDELINES

Either the bride or groom needs to be a member of FSC. They should be an active member with consistent attendance. It is preferred that they are actively volunteering and using their gifts to contribute to the mission of Fresh Start as well as contributing financially to the vision.

FSC Pastors use an approved script for the wedding ceremony. It is the final decisions of the pastor to allow additions such as: extra scripture readings, poems or personal vows in the wedding ceremony. Such items must be reviewed by the pastor during the final counseling session. If a secular song is chosen lyrics must be given to the wedding facilitator. The bride and groom will be held liable for any damage to carpets, furniture or buildings so it is important that you carefully note the guidelines included herein and ensure all the vendors are also informed. FSC reserves the right to restrict the privileges of any outside vendor who violates the wedding policy of the church.

AVAILABLE TIMES:

Times available for weddings at FSC are as follows:

Friday Weddings

- Wedding rehearsal on Thursday from 4:00-6:30pm
- Friday ceremony no earlier than 6:00pm and end by 8:00pm

Saturday Weddings

- Wedding rehearsal on Thursday or Friday night between 4:00-6:30pm
- Saturday Ceremony **must** end by 12 pm (noon)

Weddings cannot be scheduled when there is a church calendar conflict. FSC is available for the wedding ceremony and rehearsal only, **the reception / rehearsal dinner will need to be held elsewhere.** The Auditorium has a seating capacity of 500 people.

The wedding rehearsal must begin and end on time and should include all members of the wedding party. (Note: Friday weddings must have rehearsal on Thursday from 4:00-6:30pm). **Please remember to bring marriage license to wedding rehearsal.**

Reservation for the space will be guaranteed upon receipt of a \$500 non-refundable deposit and after a required initial meeting with one of our pastors. A deposit must be received for wedding to become an FSC calendar event. This amount will be deducted from the **balance of charge, which are due 30 days prior to the wedding.*** For details on the fees see Schedule of Wedding fees.

FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

Florist will have access to the location of the wedding ceremony two hours prior to the wedding. **When the ceremony is concluded and all photography completed, we ask that all areas be cleaned and all flowers and decorations be removed immediately. The church cannot store any wedding decoration nor is it responsible for any items left behind by vendors. As part of your use of facilities fee, a cleaning service will be scheduled, to clean after your wedding to make the church ready for the weekend services. Therefore anything not removed by Saturday at 2:00pm will be discarded. Furniture or church decorations are not to be moved.**

No decoration of any kind is to be applied to walls, ceilings, or glass. Florist wire, ribbon or pipe cleaners may be used when necessary but nails, staples and adhesives of any kind are not permitted.

Only votive or dripless candles can be used. Aisle candles are permitted in hurricane lamps only. In order to protect the carpet and furniture, plastic material must be placed under all floral arrangements and candles.

MUSIC

Due to the sophisticated nature of the sound and lighting system, only an FSC technician can operate them. The Wedding Facilitator is responsible for booking a technician for your wedding ceremony. The CD's and/or music files must be turned into the Wedding Facilitator no later than 2 weeks prior to the ceremony to be pre-approved. Secular lyrics are to be turned in with final payment. After they are pre-approved, they will be given to the Music Department to be used for your wedding ceremony. Only music that is suitable for a worship service may be used. Sacred, contemporary Christian, hymns and classical instrumental music are appropriate. Some secular wedding and love songs are permissible with approval - lyrics must be turned in with final payment.

The Wedding Facilitator can assist you in obtaining instrumentalists and vocalists for your wedding; however all financial requirements are your responsibility. Vocalist may attend the rehearsal. Music, such as wedding march, is not a part of the rehearsal.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

The location chosen for the wedding and the surrounding church grounds, when available, may be used for photographs immediately before and after the ceremony. For Saturday weddings pictures must be completed by 11:00am. The church does not provide a video camera, however videotaping is allowed. It is up to the individual pastor if flash photography may be used during the ceremony.

PREMARITAL COACHING

It is required that all couples being married at Fresh Start Church attend premarital coaching sessions with the pastor who will perform their ceremony. These coaching sessions last an average of 7 weeks, depending on available schedules.

REMINDERS

The local church is called “the Bride of Christ” and we ask that you treat it with reverence and respect. Members of the wedding party and guests must abide by the following guidelines, which will be strictly enforced. Any breach of these rules will result in immediate removal of the wedding party and guest from the church campus.

- Use of inappropriate language is prohibited.
- Proper dress is required at the rehearsal and wedding.
- The use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, drugs, or items resembling such is strictly prohibited on the premises.
- Only birdseed may be thrown outside the building.

Sanctuary Platform: Discuss with Wedding Facilitator the arrangement of the platform (the need to have keyboards / sound equipment removed from platform). No tape, nails, etc. may be used for hanging decorations.

No alcoholic beverages or smoking are allowed on the the church property. No one under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be allowed to participate in or be a guest at the rehearsal or wedding.

SCHEDULING OF WEDDING FEES

Personnel Fees (Member & Non-Members) Non-negotiable
Consultation, pre-marital coaching materials, set-up and custodial, audio, video, lighting, officiating Pastor fees

- A deposit of \$500.00 is required to put your wedding officially on the church calendar.
- Remainder balance of \$400 is required 30 days prior to wedding day
- Total wedding fees are \$900.

Fee schedule is non-negotiable for both member and non-members. Fees are payable in full one-month prior to the wedding date and may be paid by check, made payable to Fresh Start Church.