

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
60 E. High Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325

WEDDING POLICY

The wedding ceremony is one of the most sacred celebrations of the Church. It is the desire of the Pastor and the church family to make every such celebration a beautiful and worshipful experience. We extend to each wedding party every possible courtesy and assistance.

Non-member weddings must be approved by Consistory.

To make available our services, the following procedures have been adopted.

MINISTER

The pastor of Trinity Church officiates at all marriages in the church, except when other arrangements are made with him and approved by the Consistory. Minimum fee for non-members: \$150; members at their own discretion.

The bride and groom should be in contact with the Pastor as far in advance of the ceremony as possible. This contact should be made before the announcements are made or invitations printed. The Pastor will provide advice and literature which will be helpful for properly preparing for marriage.

The Pastor will conduct the rehearsal on the evening before the wedding, unless unusual circumstances dictate another time.

MUSIC

Trinity's organist is responsible for providing music at all weddings. The organist has the right of first refusal for playing the organ/piano. Other organists/pianists may be used only with the permission of the pastor and the organist. The organist's fee should be a minimum of \$100, or \$150 if a soloist is involved. In cases where an outside organist is used, it is appropriate to offer Trinity's organist the customary fee as a professional courtesy.

Music used with the ceremony should be in keeping with the sacredness and dignity of the wedding service. The music should praise God and pray for God's presence and blessing. Many "old standards" and "popular tunes" extol romanticized ideas about love and marriage, detracting from the worship of God. These are more appropriate for the reception, which is a social occasion rather than a worship service.

You should contact the organist one to two months before your wedding date. When you meet with her, you may plan for a processional and recessional, hymns for congregational singing, and perhaps preludes prior to the service. She will have suggestions to help you in making your decision. If you are planning for a soloist, remember that the music also needs to be scripturally based and worship music.

WEDDING HOSTESS

Trinity provides a wedding hostess, when appropriate, for your wedding. The Pastor strongly encourages the use of this hostess whenever a rehearsal is required for your wedding. The hostess, who is very familiar with our church building and our procedures, will assist at the rehearsal and on the day of the wedding. Trinity thinks you will find her services very beneficial toward a smooth and orderly wedding day. A minimum fee for the hostess is \$100.00.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Flash photography may not be used during the ceremony proper. Pictures may be taken during the processional and recessional. One professional video camera is permitted during the ceremony, but it must remain in one stationary location. After the recessional, the wedding party may return for as many pictures as desired.

ALCOHOL

No alcoholic beverages are to be used inside or outside the church building before or after rehearsals and weddings; with the exception of a champagne toast, should the reception be held in Fellowship Hall.

RECEPTIONS

Receptions held in the church building (Fellowship Hall) must be under the direction of the Pastor and one of the organizations of the church or an approved caterer, unless other arrangements are made with the Pastor.

FEES

CEREMONY: There is a \$200 refundable deposit required from everyone.

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
With candelabra (you must supply candles)	\$100.00	\$350.00
Without candelabra	75.00	300.00

After 5 hours on the day of the wedding, there is an additional charge of \$50 per hour.

FELLOWSHIP HALL:

The charge for the use of Fellowship Hall is \$100.

BULLETINS:

If service bulletins are desired, the couple will select (with the Pastor's assistance) and order bulletins. The church secretary will type and copy bulletins (if desired) if she is given all necessary information one week prior to the wedding. (\$25)

Fees shall be paid to the church office when reservations are made or in advance of the wedding. Exceptions to these fees may be made by the Pastor where in his opinion the payment would be a hardship and might deprive the couple of a church wedding.

SUMMARY OF CHARGES:

Minister: (minimum for non-member \$150; member at their own discretion.)

Organist: \$100; or \$150 if soloist is involved.

Hostess: \$100

Use of Church:	Member	Non-member
With candelabra	\$100	\$350
Without candelabra	75	300

(There is also a \$200 refundable deposit required for everyone.)

Fellowship Hall: \$100

Bulletins - typing and reproducing: \$25

Use of building after 5 hours - \$50 per hour.

Updated - 7/13