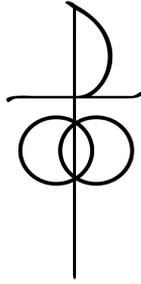


Weddings at Mount Tabor United Methodist Church



Mount Tabor United Methodist Church
3543 Robinhood Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
Telephone: 336-765-5561
Fax: 336-768-4300
E-mail: office@mttaborumc.org
www.mttaborumc.org



MARRIAGE

A marriage ceremony is a joyful occasion when a spiritual and legal contract is made between a man and a woman. In a Christian context, it is also an act of worship in which marriage is celebrated as a gift of God and the joy of the couple is shared and their commitment to each other is witnessed by family and friends. The marriage service's themes of love, hope, faithfulness, sacrifice and trust are at the heart of the good news of Jesus Christ.

With Faith in Each Other - And Faith in the Lord

by Helen Steiner Rice

*With faith in each other
And faith in the Lord,
May your marriage be blessed
With love's priceless reward.
For love that endures
And makes life worth living
Is built on strong faith
And unselfish giving.
So have faith, and the Lord
Will guide both of you through
The glorious new life
That is waiting for you.*

Introduction

The Mount Tabor United Methodist Church Wedding Committee, under the direction of the Worship Committee, will be responsible for directing all wedding services held in our church.

This committee of trained volunteers will be contacted as soon as the wedding is on the church calendar. Two members of this committee will be present at both the rehearsal and the wedding ceremony to direct, instruct, and assist you and the members of the wedding party.

We wish to assist you in making this a happy occasion; however, please do not feel it is necessary to invite the directors to your rehearsal party or reception.

The Marriage Covenant

In the marriage service, we worship the God who makes a new covenant with us in Jesus Christ. For this reason marriages will be celebrated in the Mount Tabor United Methodist Church with couples who have entered into the covenant of membership with our church through promises made to God and to each other. We believe that we can be most helpful to couples who are members of our congregation and who participate in this worship, fellowship, study, service, and prayer life.

“Weddings will be held in the Mount Tabor United Methodist Church Sanctuary and Alspaugh Worship Center for members, children, grandchildren and siblings of members of the congregation. The pastors will extend the ministry of the church through premarital counseling and celebration of marriages of persons who are not members at alternative settings.”
Adopted by Administrative Board , March 8, 1998.

Guidelines to Planning Your Wedding

The wedding service is one of several kinds of worship experiences at Mount Tabor. The Christian wedding is a sacred event in the lives of two persons who commit themselves to each other in the presence of God and in the company of family and friends.

The pastors, staff members, and members of the Wedding Committee of Mount Tabor Church are available to you during the planning stage and in the celebration of the service of marriage.

In an effort to be of maximum help to you as you develop your plans, the following procedures and suggestions will be helpful.

Arrangements

Schedules for weddings, rehearsals, and receptions at the church should be made with the pastor as soon as possible, in order to assure placement on the church calendar. Wedding services may be held in the Sanctuary or Alspaugh Worship Center. Receptions may be held in the Fellowship Hall, Family Life Center or Trinity Welcome Center.

Pastor

One of the pastors of the church will be in charge of the wedding service as well as the rehearsal. Should another pastor be desired to assist in the service, the senior pastor of the church must issue the invitation. A program of pre-marital counseling is required for all weddings.

Wedding Committee

The Wedding Committee will be responsible for directing all

wedding services held in our church. The pastor will contact the chairperson of this committee as soon as the wedding is on the church calendar. Two members of this committee will be present at both the rehearsal and the wedding ceremony to direct, instruct, and assist you and the members of the wedding party.

Professional Wedding Planners

We understand that some brides will employ the services of a professional Wedding Planner and that is acceptable. However, the rules of the Church's various committees will constitute the guidelines for the use of the Sanctuary, Alspaugh Worship Center and for the actual ceremony. The Wedding Planner is **required** to meet with the assigned Mount Tabor Wedding Director for preliminary plans to foster a clear understanding of each person's role for the rehearsal and wedding day.

Music

The Order for Marriage is a sacred service asking God's blessing on the foundation of a Christian home and family. Any music used should be equally fit and acceptable for use in any regular service of the church. The church organist, Director of Music Ministries, or Worship Leaders can draw on their training and expertise to offer suitable and appropriate suggestions for all the music of the wedding including processional and recessional music. The use of congregational hymns is also an option.

A conference should be scheduled with the organist for the planning of music for your wedding. A substitute organist may be secured when the church organist is unavailable, and will be approved by the church organist. All music selections must be finalized three weeks prior to the ceremony.

The use of other musicians, such as instrumentalists and soloists, enhances the beauty of the ceremony and can make the

occasion very special. The Director of Music Ministries can recommend a number of professional musicians who may be engaged to play during the wedding.

Photographs

The use of reputable professional photographers usually insures good pictures of a wedding. Such photographers are aware of the etiquette of wedding photography and refrain from taking pictures that conflict with the worship setting. For this reason, the photography of entrance and exit should be taken from within five pews of the central door leading into the Sanctuary. ***Flash pictures should not be taken during the service by professionals or amateurs.*** It is customary for the wedding party to have pictures taken prior to or following the service.

It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to ensure that the photographer is aware of and is willing to abide by the church's policy.

Video

The service may be video recorded provided that all equipment is discreetly placed in the balcony so as not to interfere with the service of worship. ***The videographer should not move during the service.***

It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to ensure that the photographer is aware of and is willing to abide by the church's policy.

Flowers and Decorations

We are fortunate to have worship spaces ideally suited for weddings. Elaborate decorations are not necessary to make these spaces attractive for the service. In making your plans, please use the following guidelines:

1. Flowers for the altar must be live.
2. The Church has urns and candle sticks for use on the altar.
3. The white paraments (altar cloths) will be used.
4. Only silk petals may be used in the aisle during the processional.
5. Decorations should be removed within two hours after the wedding. The exception would be flowers remaining for Sunday worship.

Please, No...

- Aisle cloths
- Dripping Candles
- Tacks, pins, nails, glue or any other material that may deface the building or its furnishings.

If families wish to have wedding flowers for use in worship on the Sunday following the wedding, arrangements should be made well in advance with the Altar Guild. An acknowledgment will be placed in the Sunday bulletin.

Reputable florists are usually well aware of their responsibilities and problems are rare with these professionals.

Equipment

All the equipment listed below is available for you to use in the Sanctuary for your wedding:

- Silver or Brass Altar Urns for floral arrangements
- 2 silver Altar Candles
- 2 silver multi-branch Candelabra
- 2 brass Altar Candles
- 1 brass Unity Candle
- 1 silver Unity Candle
- 6 Hurricane Globes for windows
- 6 Pewter and Glass candle globes for windows
- 6 Bubbled Glass globes for windows
- Silver Candlelighter

Facilities Available

For Weddings:

Sanctuary	Seating Capacity 400
Alspaugh Worship Center	Seating Capacity 425

For Receptions:

Family Life Center	Capacity 500
Fellowship Hall	Capacity 80 seated 120 standing
Trinity Welcome Center	Capacity 100 (standing reception only)

Fees and Honoraria

The use of the Sanctuary, Alspaugh Worship Center, and other facilities of the church are available to members of the church for wedding ceremonies without charge. For receptions, please refer to Mount Tabor Church Use of Building policies and submit application in the church office.

A Wedding honorarium for the pastor is appropriate. One of the Mount Tabor pastors must be involved in the wedding service and in the premarital counseling unless permission is given for another arrangement.

The Organist's fee will reflect the time involved in preparing and playing for the rehearsal and wedding service.

A Wedding Director from Mount Tabor Church is responsible for directing the wedding ceremony. No fee is charged; however, a donation to the Wedding Committee is customary.

The use of the sound system is optional. If the sound system is used, a church technician is required for the use of the system and a fee for this service is required.

A fee for the Cleaning Service is required for all weddings. The amount is determined by the space used and covers preparation and clean-up of the facility. A list of special needs must be provided to the church office **two weeks prior to the**

wedding date. Please write 5 separate checks, payable to each individual. Please call the church office for the names of the persons to whom to write the checks if you are unsure.

Fees:

Pastor:	Honorarium (no set fee)
Organist:	\$150/without rehearsal \$250/with conference & rehearsal
Sound Technician:	\$75
Director:	\$75 to Mount Tabor UMC- Wedding Committee
Cleaning Service:	\$150

Other Instructions

The church will be open and the director will be available 4 hours prior to the ceremony. Other time options may be discussed.

In consultation with the directors, room will be provided for dressing. These areas should be left in good order and all personal items should be removed promptly.

Members of the wedding party should be instructed to protect personal items and gifts that are brought to the wedding or reception. They may be placed in locked areas, if desired.

Rice may not be thrown. Bird seed may be thrown outside the buildings.

Alcoholic beverages are not to be served at the church. No members of the wedding party should come to the rehearsal or wedding under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Mount Tabor United Methodist Church is a smoke-free environment. Smoking is permitted outside the buildings only.

The pastors and the staff of the church are very much interested in working with you in order that the wedding ceremony be a meaningful and a memorable service of worship for you, your families, and your friends. Please feel free to contact the pastors, staff, and Wedding Committee as you develop your plans.

Notes

1. Date:
2. Time:
3. Pastor:
4. Music:
5. Video:
6. Florist:
7. Directors:
8. Reception:
9. Miscellaneous

Notes



Mount Tabor
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3543 Robinhood Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27106

336-765-5561

www.mttaborumc.org