

Preparing for Your Wedding

A wedding in the United Methodist Church is a service of worship. Wedding services include Bible reading, prayer, and a message given by the Pastor. The bride and groom offer pledges to one another, entering as equal partners into a sacred relationship that is blessed by God. Everything about the wedding service should reflect this is a Christian marriage.

Half of the deposit is required of non-members at the time the wedding is scheduled. The wedding date will be placed as a tentative reservation on the church calendar which becomes definite when you have spoken to the Pastor and Director of Music.

Marriage licenses are obtained from the County Clerk's office. There is a three-day wait for licenses. The wedding license is to be brought to the church office the Monday prior to the wedding.

The cost of the wedding

Following are the general charges for the use of the facilities and the service. Non-members must pay 1/2 of the Sanctuary, Custodial and Wedding Hostess fee at the time the wedding is booked. This fee is non-refundable after 30 days. The fee is paid directly to the church. Other fees are paid directly to the persons performing the services. These fees need to be paid the Monday before the wedding and can be brought in the same time you bring in your marriage license.

Member charges:

<i>Deposit / Hostess</i>	<i>\$ 50</i>
<i>Pastor</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>\$ 90</i>
<i>Tech (if needed)</i>	<i>\$ 75</i>

Non-Member charges:

<i>Sanctuary</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>\$ 90</i>
<i>Hostess</i>	<i>\$ 50</i>

<i>Tech (if needed)</i>	<i>\$ 75</i>
<i>Pastor</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>\$200</i>

DEPOSIT FEE OF \$250 REQUIRED To be returned after wedding, if no additional clean up is required.

No weddings are scheduled on holidays when the church building is closed, or during Holy Week.

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**Plymouth First
United Methodist Church
45201 N. Territorial Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-5280**



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Your wedding music

The music for your wedding should reflect your choice to publicly celebrate your marriage in our Sanctuary, which is a sacred space. While secular music is permitted, its themes and lyrics (if any) should be suitable for a sacred setting. Music will be provided by live musicians, as is our practice for services of worship. Our Minister of Music will consult with you regarding music selection.

Preparation for Marriage Counseling

Couples being married at Plymouth First United Methodist Church are expected to have premarital counseling. These 3 sessions will be set up with the pastor.

Dressing Rooms

Facilities are provided for the bride and her party to dress at the church. There are also rooms provided for the gentlemen to dress and wait before the service.



Photographs and Videos

Photographers are permitted at the rear of the Sanctuary during the processional and recessional. At all other times during the ceremony, photographers and videographers must remain out of sight and cannot move around or cause any distraction. No flash photography or additional lighting is permitted during the ceremony.

Because of the many requests for weddings in our building, each wedding is allotted a 4 hour time period; beginning 2 hours before the service. Please let your photographer know that the time for taking pictures should fall within this time frame.

Your wedding decorations—

Flowers may be placed on the altar and in appropriate containers elsewhere in the Sanctuary. Ribbons or simple flowers may be tied on the ends of the pews. They should be attached with elastic or rubber bands.

Candelabras & candles, are available for a fee, to be used in the Chancel.

No candles can be used on the floor, next to the pews, during the service.

Aisle runners are not permitted in the sanctuary for safety and aesthetic reasons.

Please be aware that we do use seasonal and liturgical decorations for worship, and the Sanctuary must be used “as is” for weddings.

Wedding Hostess

It is most helpful to have someone familiar with the church and the wedding ceremony assist the wedding party at the time of the rehearsal and on your wedding day. Therefore, a wedding hostess will assist the wedding couple and the bridal party. The Hostess will, among other things:

- Assist the pastor at the rehearsal and at the ceremony. Organizing the wedding party for the procession prior to the ceremony.
- Assist in the Choir Room with pinning corsages, pinning boutonnieres on the gentlemen & providing light snacks.
- Direct guests in and out of the Sanctuary.
- Consult with the photographer and/or florist concerning church policies if the need arises.
- Our hostess will be available while you are in our building.

The Wedding Party

Prior to both the rehearsal and the wedding, it is expected that the members of the wedding party **will refrain from using alcoholic beverages. No alcoholic beverages are permitted in the church or on the church property, at any time.** Smoking is not permitted in the building. Birdseed or rice is not allowed. No flash pictures are allowed by guests during the ceremony.