

Gospel Tabernacle

Wedding Guidelines

INTRODUCTION

You have chosen to have your wedding within a church therefore, you have a belief in God. So remember that while this ceremony is a special moment it is also a worship service and therefore a prayerful occasion.

Remember that much like having a guest within your own home, your wedding party is a guest within our church home. Please treat our home with great respect and dignity as is deserved of the House of the Lord. Please make this known to your wedding party and guest.

Gospel Tabernacle is a church body with a deep belief and faith in God. We have designed our building and interior furnishings with the purpose in mind that God would always be glorified. With this in mind we have established the following rules and guidelines for weddings held at our facilities. Read over them very carefully. Ask any questions if you are unsure about any of our guidelines.

GUIDELINES

▪ Scheduling

Gospel Tabernacle is a church that is in constant ministry. The facilities are of course used on Sundays, but there are also many other events taking place through out the week as well as on weekends. For this reason the wedding must be scheduled no less that 6 weeks before the actual wedding date. Your wedding date must not conflict with Church activities.

▪ License

A wedding license must be secured and turned into our church office for proper recording no less than 2 weeks before your wedding date. Cannot be signed until after the ceremony.

▪ Music

The facilities of Gospel Tabernacle or dedicated to God for His glory. Therefore, when selecting your music and songs for your wedding only those which are appropriate for performance within the church sanctuary may be used. If you are in need of an organist, special singer, which will also require a sound technician, or other music ministry, these may be available from our local church congregation. These persons offer their services on an honorarium basis.

▪ Church Custodian

The church facility has a number of locks for the doors, heating and air conditioning controls, light switches, and security devices. Because of this there is the need for a custodian to be on hand 1 hour before and after the wedding/reception and 1/2 hour before and after the wedding rehearsal. This custodian will be in complete control of the facilities during these times. There is a charge for his services.

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▪ **Church clean up**

You will be responsible for proper use of the facilities during your time here at our church. The cleaning equipment will be made available by the church custodian. The custodian will not be responsible for doing the cleaning, only to insure that you have the proper equipment for this task and to ensure that the facilities are left as they were found.

▪ **Floral policy**

Many weddings take place on Friday or Saturday at a time when our church office is not open. Therefore the following policy for floral set up (candles, arches, benches, etc.) must be respected. The church will be open 1/2 hour before the wedding rehearsal in order for the florist to deliver and/or set up any floral arrangements. The church will also remain open for 1/2 hour after the wedding ceremony for floral pick up. Please make it known to your florist that these are the only times available. If the florist will not be able to pick up the floral arrangements at this time you must arrange for someone to assist you.

▪ **Honorarium and Cost**

Everyone who takes part in your wedding should be shown your thankfulness and respect through an honorarium. Many times much money is spent on cakes, wedding dress, tuxedos, Wedding rings, flowers, transportation, and the honey moon, while the people who helped make this day possible were forgotten. It is only right that you show your appreciation to those who work very hard to make your wedding a memorable experience. Please respect all those who take part in your wedding with a gift of appreciation. A fees and honorarium sheet is included for the church expenses and other services you may request.

▪ **Other**

- All persons in the wedding should be at the church 1 hour before the ceremony. 1/2 hour for the wedding rehearsal.
- Animals are not allowed inside the church with the exception of seeing-eye dogs.
- No smoking or alcoholic beverages are allowed anywhere on church premises.
- No profanity or rough language, is allowed anywhere on church premises.
- No litter on grounds is acceptable.
- No tape or glue will be used to affix flowers or such like to any church furniture.
- No major rearrangement of church furniture is permitted.
- Birdseed rather than rice is suggested. Let's be kind to nature.