

All couples must read the brochures (in the Information Packet) prior to the Approval Interview with the pastor. Please evaluate your relationship in the context of the United Methodist belief statements. Are there issues that you may need to work through before a wedding at South Harborcreek Church?

Couples who live together and/or are sexually active will be *challenged* to maintain celibacy until the wedding.

If you have any questions, please call the church office.



*South Harborcreek
United Methodist Church
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Weddings

*South Harborcreek
United Methodist Church*



*Congratulations
on your engagement!*

This is a wonderful time of love, dreams, and plans – filled with joy and activity. As you anticipate your marriage and try to get all the wedding pieces into place, remember our goal is to walk with you. We are here, as your faith community, to help you celebrate a great wedding day and launch a committed, life-long marriage together.

South Harborcreek United Methodist Church

celebrates Christian marriage.

We believe God established the sanctity of marriage and intends the bond between husband and wife to last a lifetime. In following those beliefs, South Harborcreek U. M. Church has the responsibility to do everything possible to help every couple getting married at South Harborcreek Church to achieve a permanent marriage bond and establish a strong Christian home.

South Harborcreek United Methodist Church is available for weddings of church members and regular attendees. All weddings are scheduled in the South Harborcreek U. M. Church office under the supervision of the pastor.

Weddings performed in the church will follow the church's wedding guidelines.

Rental fees apply and are used to cover expenses incurred by the church. A schedule of fees is available from the church office.

When Planning Your Wedding

Please keep the following information in mind.

1. The pastor is responsible to oversee and approve each wedding ceremony performed in South Harborcreek United Methodist Church. Visiting pastors and ordained ministers are welcome to assist.
2. **Pre-marital Counseling**, with the pastor, completion of the pre-marital inventory, attendance at a minimum of six follow-up sessions with a Mentor Couple, and regular church attendance are prerequisites for all weddings held at South Harborcreek Church. During the first year of marriage the Mentor Couple will administer a post-wedding inventory and conduct follow-up sessions.
3. **A Wedding Coordinator** is required to assist the pastor and the couple at each wedding. A list of Coordinators is provided after the Approval Interview with the pastor. The Wedding Coordinator will guide you through the many wedding details and act as the church contact person. They will guide the rehearsal and wedding so you and your family can focus on the wedding ceremony instead of the many details.

To get started, your wedding should be scheduled at least six months prior to the anticipated wedding date. Stop by the church office to obtain the *Wedding Information Packet*. Return the *Wedding Interview Form* to the church and ask to schedule an Approval Interview with the pastor. Your wedding date will be tentatively reserved, if approved, and only finalized upon completion of the preparation requirements. A complete *Wedding Handbook* will be given to you after the Approval Interview.

Additional Notes

Completing all the details for a wedding (counseling, filling out forms, paying fees, etc.) may get frustrating but each is important, so all must be completed three months before the wedding.

Since we are committed to getting you started into a lifelong and successful marriage, the pastor has the responsibility to delay or disapprove a wedding at South Harborcreek Church if the pastor believes the wedding should not take place or until satisfactory completion of additional counseling.