

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

# *Healthy Beginnings*

**Wedding Information**



## **Statement of Welcome**

**We embrace marriage equality  
and are an inclusive  
congregation. We joyfully invite all  
couples to celebrate their  
relationship with one another in  
Holy Marriage.**



## **Marriage as a Sacred Covenant**

A wedding at St. Paul's Lutheran Church is an act of Christian worship within the community of faith.

## **Marriage Ministry**

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America teaches that marriage is a life-long relationship based on the promise of faithfulness and rooted in the love of God. Our family of God at St. Paul's are committed to encouraging and supporting healthy marriages.

## **Scheduling Your Wedding**

A wedding request form must be submitted to St. Paul's Lutheran Church at least four (4) months prior to the wedding date. The wedding request form is available online at [www.stpaulsclearwater.org](http://www.stpaulsclearwater.org) or by contacting the church office at 727-446-7718

## **Pre-Marital Counseling**

St. Paul's requires two pre-marital counseling sessions as a component of the marriage preparation ministry.

## **Officiating Minister**

The officiating minister from St. Paul's, will assist you in planning the order of worship, selecting scriptures, developing prayers and your vows.

## **Music Director**

Our Director of Music will provide organ, piano, and/or keyboard music for your ceremony. If you have additional musicians you would like to participate in your ceremony, please work in conjunction with the Director of Music to insure all your musical needs are met.

**Marriage License** Each couple will need to obtain a state marriage license in Pinellas county. For more info go to:

<https://www.pinellasclerk.org/aspinclude2/ASPInclude.asp?pageName=marriageFAQ.htm>



### **Space Opportunities**

St. Paul's has a beautiful worship space in which all couples are invited to hold their wedding ceremony. Kinports fellowship hall is an option for casual ceremonies. Offsite ceremonies are also an option.

### **Rehearsal**

The rehearsal will include instructions for all wedding participants and a run through of the ceremonial events. A order of service and information about the wedding party's entrance and exit will be made available prior to the rehearsal. Please be sure all the members of your wedding party are aware of the procedures.

### **Rice and Confetti**

In an effort to care for creation we ask you not to throw confetti or rice. Birdseed may be thrown outside the glass doors of the reception hall and beyond the carpeted area of the sanctuary exit.

### **Reception**

If you are using St. Paul's facilities for your reception please adhere to the following:

1. Please ensure all guests drink responsibly, and underage drinking is not allowed.
2. Please feel free to decorate and set up as you would like. It is your responsibility to return the room to the condition which you found it. This includes taking out trash, returning tables and chairs to their original places spot cleaning any messes and cleaning all items and surfaces used in kitchen. A forfeiture of your deposit will occur if these guidelines are not met.

### **Janitorial Services**

The facilities at St. Paul's are maintained by our staff and will be included in the fee contract for the necessary janitorial issues beyond those listed above.



