

**Grace Lutheran Church
303 Green Bay Rd
Thiensville, WI 53092
262.242.1174**

Wedding Guidelines

The service of marriage is first and foremost a worship service. We gather together as a people of God to join in a special celebration of God's love for all of creation, and to ask God's blessings and the support of the gathered assembly for the union of two people in marriage. These are some guidelines to assist in your planning for a wedding at Grace:

Pre-marital Counseling: The pastor will meet with the couple several times for pre-marital counseling and to plan the service. The couple should contact the pastor a few months before their wedding.

Rehearsal: The rehearsal will be at a time agreed upon by the pastor and couple. The pastor will run this rehearsal, in consultation with the couple's personal wedding coordinator (if they have one). Usually these take place on the evening or afternoon prior to the service.

Saturday Weddings: The ceremony and pictures should be completed by 4pm on Saturdays in which we have worship so that the sanctuary can be put in order.

Photographs: Photographs during the worship service may only be taken without flash, and the photographer must be as unobtrusive as possible. Inconspicuous videotaping is permitted. Photographs may be taken freely before and after worship, as well as at the rehearsal.

Smoking and Alcohol: Only alcoholic beverages provided by the Banquet Committee are allowed on the premises. Also, no smoking is permitted in the building. No consumption of alcohol is permitted by members of the wedding party prior to the service.

Music: All musical choices must be discussed with the Pastor and the Organist/Accompanist. Other musical arrangements can be made in consultation with the Pastor.

Flowers and Decorations: Floral designs are left to your discretion, but no flowers may be placed in front of or on the altar. All other decorations must be approved by the Pastor and removed following the service. You must use non-marking, removable tape to attach any other decorations. Only fresh flowers should be used for arrangements in the front of the church.

Candelabras: The church has two pairs of candelabras. There is no additional cost for using the candelabras.

Dressing: Should members of the wedding party wish to dress at the church, a room is available for this purpose. Following the wedding, please take all personal articles with you, and please dispose of the litter from flower boxes, etc., in the trash receptacles.

Rice: The throwing of rice, confetti, or birdseed is not permitted inside or outside of the church; nor is the releasing of balloons. Please inform your ushers and guests of this restriction. You are welcome to use bubbles.

The church sanctuary seats approximately 200.

Wedding Service Expenses

We ask that all fees be sent to the church office one week prior to the wedding.

<u>Members (*)</u>	<u>Non-Members</u>
Pastor (unspecified)	Pastor: \$300.00 (includes premarital counseling)
Organist: \$150.00 (includes service and rehearsal)	Organist \$200.00 (includes service and rehearsal)
Custodial Services: \$50.00	Custodial Services: \$100.00
Worship Folders: \$30.00	Worship Folders: \$30.00/100
Special Musicians: \$100	Use of Sanctuary: \$700.00
	<i>\$100.00 non-refundable deposit due at time of scheduling.</i>
	<i>\$100.00 refundable damage deposit due at time of schedule (returned after the event if all is in order).</i>

Wedding Receptions at Grace

The Banquet Committee must assist you in arranging your wedding reception, and in making preparations. *Please phone the office as soon as the date is set to clear the church calendar.*