

Wedding Policy
of
Corinth Presbyterian Church in Parker, Texas

We are pleased that you wish to be married in **Corinth Presbyterian Church in Parker** and take this opportunity to acquaint you with your policies so that your wedding ceremony will be a meaningful worship service. The church is guided in the formulation of these wedding policies by the *Book of Common Worship* of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

A Christian marriage is a gift from God. Our policies are intended to make your wedding a special and joyful event. We honor our obligation to watch over our historic church building and be faithful to the Reformed tradition.

Who Can Perform A Wedding?

It is expected of all couples being married at Corinth that they counsel with the minister performing the ceremony. If a minister outside of Corinth is to perform the service, the couple will be expected to counsel with that minister. It is the responsibility of the couple to schedule these sessions directly with the appropriate minister in advance of the wedding date.

Scheduling Your Wedding

When a couple wishes to be married at Corinth, a reservation should be made when a date is set. Weddings for non-members must be approved by the church council. Check with the church coordinator or elder about the availability of your desired date on the church calendar and on the minister's calendar. Dates for weddings and rehearsals will be confirmed through the church coordinator/elder.

Complete the Wedding Information Form with as much detail as possible.

Submit the security deposit of \$250 with your application in order to hold your desired date. The non-member sanctuary fee of \$350 is due 30 days prior to the wedding date. For members of Corinth, the sanctuary fee is waived.

Call for an appointment with the minister of choice and the church coordinator/elder to discuss your plans at least thirty days in advance. Review the wedding policy with them to be sure all parties understand your wedding plans. At this time, negotiate the minister's and musicians' honorarium, as well as payment requirements.

Building Use

We will deduct the cleaning fee from your security deposit once the church has been cleaned after the wedding. Typically the fee for cleaning is \$50-\$100, depending on the

number of people attending and the amount of clean up or repairs that is required. Damages in excess of the security deposit will be billed directly to the bride and groom, unless another responsible party has been identified in the Wedding Information Form.

Seating

The sanctuary has 18 pews. Seven (7) people can comfortably be seated in each pew for a total of 126 seats. If 8 people are seated in each pew, the total is 144. Chairs can be rented for seating in the side extensions, but aisles for passing must be left open. Chairs to seat 54 can comfortably be added bringing the maximum total seating to 198. Keep in mind, our maximum capacity, per the Parker Fire Marshal is 200, including the minister and musician(s).

Music

The minister performing the wedding service shall review and approve all music prior to the service.

The church does have various musicians or you may select musicians of your own choosing. Arrangements must be made in advance directly with the individual musicians.

Organist: Trudy Jackson, 972-881-0730, trudyj70@gmail.com
String Quartet: Monika Bartley, 214-475-3311, monikabartley@mac.com

The church has a sound system which may be used for recorded music. An instruction period with our staff for operational instructions should be arranged 30 days prior to the wedding date, as we are unable to supply the personnel to operate the system.

Flowers and Decorations

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Directory of Worship states that ‘Flowers, decorations, and other appointments should be appropriate to the place of worship, enhance the worshiper’s consciousness of the reality of God, and reflect the integrity and simplicity of Christian life.’ The pulpit, baptismal font, communion table, and cross shall stay in the chancel area.

In order to protect the church facility, the policy is to use dripless candles. Decorations which require the use of pins, tacks, nails, screws, staples, or adhesives which may mar the furniture, walls, or floors should not be used. Bouquets or bows may be used on the ends of the pews attached with wrapped wire or ribbon. No adhesive tape of any kind is to be used in decorating.

The bridal party shall be responsible for any damage done by the florist and his/her equipment. Protective material should be placed under each candelabra or candle. Plants or floral arrangements, whether real or artificial, should be placed in trays. Flowers, decorations and candelabras should be removed from the church shortly after the

wedding party leaves the building. Donations of flowers to the church suitable for Sunday worship are gratefully received.

Photography/Videotaping

We encourage couples to discuss picture arrangements in advance with their photographer to determine how much time will be needed before and after the service. Flash photographs are inappropriate for a worship service except at the beginning of the processional and during the recessional.

Bulletins

Sometimes a couple wants a printed order of worship, particularly if there are hymns. This can be done in consultation with the minister and your selected musician(s). The church does not prepare wedding programs. We can suggest sources for the publication of the bulletins, but the couple is responsible for the printing.

Etiquette

Confetti, sparklers, rice, silly string, etc., are not permitted inside or outside the church at any time before, during, or after the wedding.

Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in or on Corinth property at any time. However, if communion is served as part of the service, communion wine may be served.

Smoking and the use of tobacco products are not permitted in the church building.

Parking is permitted only in the parking area beside and behind the church. There is a maximum of 50 spaces. No parking is permitted on the grass. If you anticipate a need for additional parking, contact the City of Parker (across Parker Road) to negotiate use of their parking lot.

All facilities are to be left in their original order and condition. All rented items, flowers (except those you may leaving for the following Sunday service), and gifts shall be removed following the agreed upon service and building usage time. Items left beyond 3 days will be donated to a local charity.

If using a minister other than a Corinth minister, a member of our church will need to be present during the rehearsal and the wedding.

What are the costs?

The cost for the use of the building is \$350, which includes time for rehearsal, wedding day set up, ceremony, photography time, and post-ceremony clean up, as described above in the Etiquette section. The building fee should be paid no later than 30 days prior to the wedding date. Cash or check or bank check is an acceptable form of payment.

A security deposit of \$250 is due *with the wedding application* at the time the church is reserved. A cleaning fee typically of \$50-\$100 is deducted from this deposit, and if there is no damage, the balance will be returned within 30 days to the bride and groom or other designate. If damage has been sustained, notice will be sent to you, repairs will be made, and an itemized statement issued to you along with an invoice for any balance due if necessary.

The minister will determine their professional fee for counseling, rehearsal, and wedding service. Typically these fees are \$250-\$400 if using one of Corinth's ministers. The minister's fee is due at the time of the rehearsal or as designated by the individual minister.

There is no charge for the use of the church if the bride, the groom, or the parent(s) of either has been an active member of Corinth for at least six months. For members of Corinth, there are no fees for the minister's services. An honorarium may be given, the amount to be determined by the bridal couple.

What to Bring to the Rehearsal

- The marriage license
- Payments for the minister's honorarium, as well as for the musician(s). Bank checks, personal checks, and cash are accepted forms of payment.
- A list of photographs, if any, that are to be taken during and after the ceremony. Check with the minister to identify video and camera requirements the minister may have during the service.
- Good humor!

Please call the church at 972-372-4765 for an application, available dates, and for more information.