

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FREDERICKSBURG, PA
UPDATED: 2014
WEDDING INFORMATION

1. The marriage ceremony is a service in the worship of God, and as such must be undertaken with reverence and dignity. It is expected that those wishing to use St. John's for their wedding do so from their commitment to the Christian faith and not solely out of a sense of tradition or a desire to please family members. Conducting a wedding in the church implies a desire to seek God's witness and blessing on the marriage, and to dedicate themselves to live and raise their family within the family of the church.
2. Marriages are to be performed by the pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ. Other clergy or worship leaders may assist in the marriage ceremony at the invitation of the minister upon the request of the couple. The decision on whether or not to include others in the service remains at the discretion of the pastor.
3. As soon as a couple decides to be married, they must make an appointment with St. John's pastor for a preliminary interview to schedule use of the church, and to set up a schedule for pre-marriage counseling. This first appoint must be made at least two (2) months prior to the projected wedding date. **No weddings may be scheduled by telephone.**
4. Guided by the minister's faith and conscience, and through counseling, the minister has the right to refuse to perform any wedding which he/she feels will not allow the potential for a strong Christian marriage.

WEDDING MUSIC INFORMATION

1. Music is usually an important and integral part of a church wedding service. Arrangements for music should be completed as early as possible. This is usually done at the time the minister is consulted and the church is reserved for the wedding.
2. If scheduled, it is expected that St. John's organist will provide the music for the wedding. Exceptions to this policy follow the same guidelines for guest clergy.
3. All music should be selected with the assistance of the church organist and approved as appropriate and usable. A wedding in the church is a

RELIGIOUS SERVICE and music should be appropriate and have a **SACRED** value. As interesting as music composed for a rock group may be, it may be inappropriate for a religious service. It may be impossible to arrange and play on a church musical instrument and guitar music may not be adaptable for an organ. The use of prerecorded music is discouraged.

4. Wedding Costs:

- a. The pastoral fee is determined by the current minister, who will discuss this with you during the counseling sessions.
- b. Church fee is \$100.00 for non-members and a donation is suggested for members.
- c. The recommended fee for the organist is \$75.00-\$100.00, depending on the numbers and complexity of the musical selections. If a soloist is to be included as part of the worship service and additional \$25.00 is necessary for the organist. If music is needed which requires purchasing, the couple may purchase it themselves or reimburse the organist for the purchase.
- d. The recommended fee for the sexton is \$50.00
- e. Wedding Rules are as follows:
 - a. Candles other than the two (2) on the altar should be provided by the couple being married.
 - b. The use of rice or confetti is not permitted. Birdseed may be used outside the church only.

5. Telephone Contacts:

Rev. Tony Fields, Sr., Pastor
Office: 717-865-7222
Cell: 717-673-0972

ALL FEES ARE DUE AT REHEARSAL