

WEDDING INFORMATION FOR SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Congratulations!

You are about to take a step into a joyous time in your life!
Salem United Church of Christ shares in the conviction that few occasions
in the lives of people are more cherished than the service of marriage.

We are glad you are considering our church for your wedding.
This is some brief information to help you with your decision to use our church.

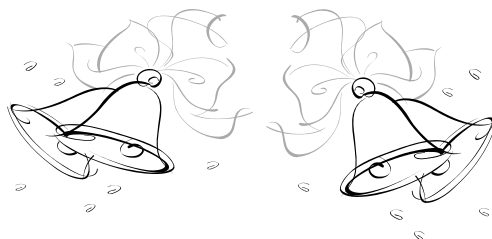
We believe that marriage is a gift of God, a gift to be embraced joyfully!
Therefore, weddings at Salem are special religious ceremonies that begin a lifelong
covenant in which God enters in through the wedding and continues to journey
alongside the couple throughout their life together.

Salem believes that participation in a faith community is important
for the couple to experience full support as their new relationship unfolds.

Sharing life in community helps to develop, nurture and support
a spiritual foundation that will carry the couple throughout their lifetime.
It is this same spiritual foundation that will nurture the love in your relationship.

If you aren't actively involved in a church at this time,
we invite you to join us at Salem.

We are a small church with a big heart; as your hearts open up for new life together,
we welcome the opportunity to share ours with you!



CONFERRING WITH THE MINISTER and RESERVING THE DATES

Before a definite date can be established for the wedding, it is important to consult with our pastor and property chairperson to make sure that everything needed for your wedding is available.

As a part of wedding preparation, couples married at Salem receive a series of pre-marital sessions. These sessions not only cover the wedding details, but also the deeper significance of the covenant of marriage. It is our hope that these visits will enable you to experience greater fulfillment as partners sharing life together.

Unfortunately, at this time Salem doesn't have the capability to "rent" out our sanctuary. If the couple prefers another person to perform the actual ceremony, a discussion can be held regarding how the two ministers will need to work together.

PARKING

We have a parking lot behind the building that will be available on the reserved dates for the rehearsal and wedding. We also have cooperative agreements with some businesses in the area that can be explained, if more parking is required. Further, arrangements for parking space to be held in front of the church building. These arrangements need to be coordinated between the Columbia Borough and the wedding couple.



WEDDING EXPENSES *(All fees are due a week before the wedding.)*

- Pastor Gratuity:** \$150 *is customary for a basic wedding package. Pre-marital conversation with the couple, the rehearsal and ceremony itself will take 12 hours or more of the pastor's time. This service is in addition to our contracted part time pastor's regular duties. All will need to offer this gratuity to cover the time and effort put into the wedding. Also, if the wedding requires more pastoral assistance, or is off church grounds; transportation reimbursement and additional time compensation is expected for these services. (Please note that if this causes a financial hardship, assistance may be available.)*
- Sanctuary Use:** \$200
- Organist:** \$125 **basic fee for wedding day**
(If our organist is utilized; there is an extra fee for rehearsals with the soloist.)
- Fellowship Hall:** \$200 **basic fee**
\$100 **for use of kitchen**
(this is for use of the kitchen in any way)
- Custodial Fee:** \$50 **for sanctuary**
\$50 **for fellowship hall (\$15 more for kitchen)**