

# Trinity Lutheran Church Wedding Booklet

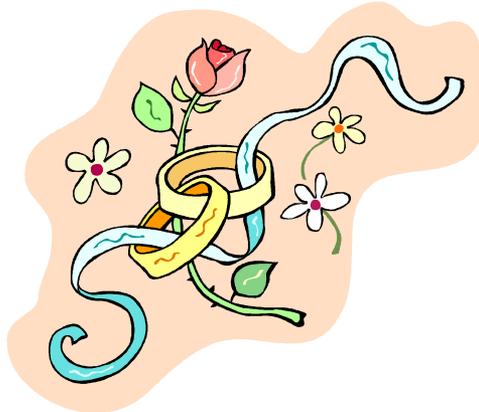


"Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." – Matthew 19:6

Trinity Lutheran Church  
4560 Glendale Ave.  
Toledo, Ohio 43614

Contact information:  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
4560 Glendale  
Toledo, Ohio 43614  
419-385-2651  
Fax: 419-385-2636  
Office hours 9-5 (Monday-Friday)

Pastors Mark Love and Ryan Kleimola  
Deaconess Mary Anne Hibbard, Music Minister  
Candy Huner, Wedding Coordinator  
Emily Jacobs & Sarah Worley, Church Secretary



They are no longer two but one. Mark 10:8

## **Congratulations on Your Engagement!**

Here at Trinity we believe a wedding service is an opportunity to testify to your faith in God through Jesus Christ our Savior. Please keep this in mind as you plan your wedding.

This booklet has been developed to guide you with your wedding arrangements at Trinity Lutheran Church. The policies are to help you and your families plan a joyous celebration as you begin your married life.

The pastor will counsel with you about how God feels toward marriage. He will be glad to talk over service variations and any questions you have along the way.

### **Scheduling your wedding**

Wedding arrangements should be made well in advance with the pastor. Please call the church office at 419-385-2651 to schedule your wedding and to check if the date is available. You will be asked to fill out an information form to secure your date. Once approved, your date and name will be entered on the church calendar.

All details concerning the wedding and related arrangements must conform to such practices and standards consistent with the Christian faith and Trinity Lutheran Church. The sanctuary is not a hall or a public auditorium. It is a sanctuary dedicated to God, and all events that take place inside must be in keeping with the high purpose to which it is dedicated.

As a Christian, you will want your wedding to give testimony to your faith, give praise and thanks to God, and obtain the Lord's blessing for a life together that is ideally based on Christ's love.

With this purpose in mind, you will want your wedding to be reflective in customs, music and participation of the deep Christian joy and thankfulness that you feel.

## **Dressing Room**

Two rooms are available. For the bride and attendants, it is the music room. It has a full-length mirror and an area to hang your dresses. For the groom and groomsmen, it is the Church nursery.

## **Guest Book**

Trinity Lutheran Church has a podium to place a guest book if you choose.

## **Unity Stand**

If you choose to have a unity candle Trinity Lutheran Church has a unity stand.

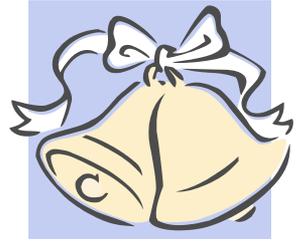


## **Counseling**

Both the bride and groom shall meet with the pastor for 3 sessions of premarital counseling with each session being approximately 1-2 hours. The appointments for counseling are made by contacting the pastor about 3-4 months prior to the wedding.

## Reasons for counseling

- To provide the opportunity for the couple to discuss the nature and significance of the Christian marriage in an atmosphere of freedom and honesty.
- To provide the objective insight of a discerning person in helping couples evaluate their love for each other.
- To help the couple in interpreting attitudes and relationships with each other's friends and family.
- To explore ways of deepening spiritual life.
- To help the couple understand the procedure of the wedding service.



## The Order of Service

Processional

Invocation

Scripture Lessons

Short Sermon/wedding address

Declaration of Intent

The exchange of Vows

The exchange of Rings

The Unity Candle (optional)

The Pronouncement

The Blessings

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

The Recessional

When the pastor meets with you, he will guide you through the service in great detail by discussing the options available. Please bring all your questions.

## **Wedding Coordination**

Trinity has a wedding coordinator that is familiar with the Church and will be at the rehearsal and wedding to assist you.

## **General Church Information**

Seating Capacity: 400

Number of Pews: 18 on each side of the aisle

Length of the Aisle: 60 ft (runners available from the florists are usually lengths of 75 ft and work well)

## **Alcohol at Church**

There will be **NO alcohol** brought into the building or on the church premises.

## **Smoking**

Smoking in the church building is **strictly prohibited**.

## **Decorations**

Bows or flowers for the pews must be secured with elastic, ribbon or plastic pew clips. **NO tape, tacks or nails are to be used please.**

## **Banners**

Trinity has banners that may be used for weddings. If you would like to see any of them please ask the pastor or wedding coordinator.

## **Flowers**

Flowers to be used at the church may be purchased from any florist and should be placed on the two chancel wall shelves. Please inform your florist that Trinity does **NOT** permit the use of Asparagus ferns or other greens that shed easily and make a mess of the altar area.

If any flowers are to be left in the church for Sunday services, the church office or the wedding coordinator should be informed.

Flowers placed on the altar are viewed as a sacrifice made to God; they should be a cut arrangement or fresh cut flowers placed in a vase.

## **Pew Candles**

Trinity has candleholders that can be attached to a number of pews. Ask the pastor or wedding coordinator for more information.



## **Policy regarding throwing rice, bird seed, Confetti**

The throwing of rice, bird seed, confetti, fresh flower petals or other such items is **NOT PERMITTED**. This is due primarily to the possible dangers of someone slipping and falling. These items tend to make the sidewalks and narthex floor slippery. A Toledo City Ordinance forbids helium balloons.

We ask for your cooperation in assisting us in our efforts to keep our grounds clean and safe.

## **Marriage License:**

The wedding couple is responsible for securing the marriage license prior to the ceremony. A license may be obtained at any county courthouse in Ohio and is valid for one year. Make sure to bring yours to the rehearsal and give to the wedding coordinator.



## **Two weeks before wedding:**

If Trinity is to print your bulletin, please submit blank wedding bulletins (8.5 X 11) to the church office so the secretary may type a proof bulletin. The proof must be approved by bride/groom prior to printing at least 1 week before wedding.

*\*\*If you are making your own bulletins, please submit a copy to pastor for approval at least one week before the wedding.*

**One week before wedding:** Call the church office to double check all of the information in the bulletin and make sure all fees are paid.

## Rehearsal

A wedding rehearsal is essential. The rehearsal is usually the night before the wedding. The pastor will arrange a time that is most convenient for all parties.

The rehearsal will start at the time set and should last about 30 minutes. The pastor will guide you through the rehearsal.

All members of the wedding party, including parents of the bridal couple, should be present at the rehearsal.

The night of the rehearsal you will be able to decorate. Please make arrangements with the wedding coordinator

*Please bring Marriage license,  
Unity candle, guest book and any  
decorations to the rehearsal*

## Children's Involvement

If you intend to use a ring bearer or a flower girl, please check with the pastor. It might be noted that for church weddings, the use of very small children (age-appropriate) often causes much confusion and can disrupt the entire wedding ceremony. Though cute, they can become the focal point of the ceremony, as opposed

to the bridal couple and their commitment being made to the Lord.

## Wedding Worship

One of the essential principles to keep in mind is that the wedding service is also a worship service, in which a Christian man and woman pledge themselves to a lifelong relationship that the scriptures compare to that of Christ and the Church. The focus of a wedding service should always be on Christ and his love for the church.



Bridal couples cannot feel that, “since this is their wedding,” they can dictate to the church what the church will do for them, especially with respect to the wedding service. Because a Christian wedding service is a natural part of the life cycle of the church, the church has every right to determine the nature and content of the service, according to the customs and practices of the congregation.

**\*\*There is no Couple Communion during the wedding service\*\***

## Wedding Music:

We believe that the purpose of music for all services at Trinity Lutheran Church is to honor and glorify God.

Selections of appropriate music will be done in a meeting with Dcs. Hibbard, our Music Minister and:

~**All music** to be used must be approved by the Pastor and Music Minister

~If an instrument other than the organ is to be used, it must be played in a manner to give support to the singer rather than being dominant or overpowering.

Trinity has an organ and a piano that are often used for wedding ceremonies. Arrangement for the use of either of them, a soloist and/or other musicians is the responsibility of the couple.

## **Pictures**

**No flash pictures** are to be taken during the service because of the distraction they cause. Flash pictures may be taken as the bridal party walks up and down the aisle. After the service, the pastor will be glad to pose for special pictures you or your photographer may desire. (Photographer should consult with pastor before the service begins.) Photographs may be taken before the service; your wedding coordinator can assist you with this action.



**Videotaping** may be done on the balcony or on a tripod in an out-of-the-way location.

