

Weddings at ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
30000 GRATIOT AVE. ROSEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48066
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www.erinchurch.org

There are six requirements for every couple marrying at Erin Church. They include:

1. Work with the Pastor of Erin Church to schedule and plan the ceremony.
2. Complete and turn in Wedding Request form.
3. Attend pre-marriage counseling sessions.
4. Attend 3 worship services.
5. Abide by the church use policies.
6. Know that the fees are for 3 hours.

A. MARRIAGE PREPARATIONS:

WARNING!! Marriage is tough!! Marriage involves taking courageous steps. Marriage is commitment through better or worse, richer and poorer, sickness and health, as long as you both shall live. Unfortunately, our social culture today does little to reinforce the core values essential to maintain emotional health, family stability, and a supportive environment in which to raise a family. Christianity, specifically as illustrated in the New Testament, is a profound challenge to contemporary social norms. It is this Christ-centered focus that offers powerful criteria for a healthy and prosperous marriage. The Session and the Pastor of Erin Church strictly require that appropriate pre- marriage classes be attended before the wedding.

B. WORKING WITH THE STAFF:
SCHEDULING:

It is advisable that wedding planning with the Church begins no later than four months before the ceremony. The date and time of the wedding will be set in consultation with the pastor and the office staff. After consultation and scheduling with the Pastor, receipt of the completed Wedding Request Form and payment of Sanctuary fee will confirm your wedding date and rehearsal times.

Weddings are not normally scheduled during Lent or Holy Week, and are not usually held on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

1. THE PASTOR: Nancy D. Bass, CRE pastor@erinchurch.org 586-777-9200 ext: 101

The Pastor confirms your schedule, teaches the pre-marriage classes, is available for counseling, conducts the rehearsal, and officiates at the service. Important things to remember are:

- It is necessary to meet with the Pastor as soon as possible to schedule the wedding and rehearsal dates.
- The Pastor of Erin Church officiates at all weddings. If you desire other clergy to assist in the service, indicate this to the Pastor. He/she may extend the invitations. It is the Pastor's responsibility to extend a formal invitation to any guest clergy.
- Because of the serious nature of commitment and love in a Christian marriage, the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church grants the Pastor the responsibility to evaluate the appropriateness of any couple preparing for marriage. The Pastor has the obligation to confirm or refuse any request to marry based on his/her own conscience. Every effort will be made, however, to provide you with the necessary resources to be properly prepared for your marriage.

2. MINISTER OF MUSIC/ORGANIST

The Minister of Music coordinates the selection and performance of appropriate music for the ceremony. Important things to remember are:

- Selection of music must be made with the organist no less than one month prior to the wedding date. The organist will be able to suggest a number of appropriate pieces. If at that time no selection is made, the organist will choose the music to be played at the wedding.
- The Bride and Groom are responsible for contacting and preparing any musician they wish to hire in addition to the organist.
- **All music shall meet the approval of the Pastor.** Your music should reflect the Christian foundations of love as well as the uniqueness of each couple.
- In the event you will be using your own music during the ceremony at anytime you must provide the CD to our Sound Tech 2 weeks prior to wedding date so they have time to work on the selections.

3. CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Dorothy Pietrzak churchoffice@erinchurch.org

The Church Administrator will oversee the church schedule, handle internal communications of the church on your behalf, confirm appointments with you, and record the appropriate remunerations.

C. WORSHIP PARTICIPATION:

A wedding in the church is a statement of faith. It declares that as a couple you believe your relationship will be shaped by your faith in Jesus as Lord. The Elders, Deacons, and Pastor of Erin Church deeply believe that this faith is the foundation for loving relationships to flourish. We believe a family that seeks to reflect God's love will be stronger, more compassionate, and healthier than it can be through any other source. This is no guarantee against difficult times, arguments, even destructive behavior; however a marriage that is led by Christ-like love will be able to last far better than it could otherwise. We believe that a dedicated religious life in which a family spends time offering themselves in prayer and praise to their spiritual Lord is the most basic part of growing in a Christ-centered relationship. This is also important for the development of children.

We feel that a couple seeking to make a Christian statement of faith at their wedding should properly prepare themselves by beginning a worship life early in their relationship and continuing it throughout their marriage. We believe this to be so essential to a successful marriage that out of concern for you, we require every couple being married at Erin Church to join us in the worship of our Lord for a minimum of three Sundays prior to the wedding. Where extenuating circumstances exist, the Pastor may waive this requirement. We further encourage you to continue in worship practices following your wedding, either with us or another community faith that best fits your family's needs.

D. POLICIES OF CHURCH USE:

SECURING THE SCHEDULE:

After you have arranged a wedding and rehearsal schedule with the pastor, the receipt of the completed Wedding Request Form and Sanctuary deposit will be considered confirmation of your sincere commitment for us to work with you in preparing for your wedding. Prior to this payment, all schedules are considered tentative. ***Please keep in mind: there is a 3 hour time block. 1 hour prior to the wedding, 1 hour for the service and 1 hour after wedding for photos and well wishers. If you go beyond there will be a surcharge of \$25 every 30 minutes over.***

DECORATIONS: *It is the obligation of the bride and groom to make certain that these regulations are followed.*

- The sanctuary provides the setting for a sacred service which is dignified and beautiful.
- Decorations should be carefully planned to maintain the dignity of the day.
- In planning your decorations you may wish to provide them yourselves, or arrange for a professional florist.
- The church will be available for setting up decorations one hour before the wedding. Ribbon or simple floral arrangements may be used to mark the pews. No nails, wire, or tape may be used.
- The use of aisle runners is prohibited and NOTHING is to be scattered on the floors (eg., confetti, flower petals, etc.).
- Please do not use rice, birdseed, outside. Our City ordinance prohibits this. You are more than welcome to use bubbles or balloons. (090106)

CONDUCT OF THE WEDDING PARTY: *It is the obligation of the bride and groom to make certain that these regulations are followed.*

- Under NO circumstances is alcohol allowed inside church facilities.
- Consumption of alcohol is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN on church property.
- In accordance with laws of the State of Michigan SMOKING NOT PERMITTED on church property.
- No eating or drinking is permitted in the church.
- Conduct in the church building must be worshipful and respectful.
- No confetti or rice is allowed on the church property.
- In the event of damage to or loss of property, prompt payment is expected.

GUESTS:

The Christian wedding is a service of the church and it is this community which seeks to support and pray for you. Feel free to make special invitations to family and friends, but be advised the doors to worship are always open.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO: *It is the obligation of the bride and groom to make this policy known to your photographers and videographers.*

This is one of the most significant days in your lives and deserves to be recorded for your family's enjoyment.

- Photography and video taping of the ceremony is permitted, taking care not to distract from the ceremony.
- Flash photography or video floodlights are prohibited from use during the service.
- All hired photographers and/or videographers must meet with the Pastor before the service. Formal pictures may be taken before or after the service.

RENUMERATION FOR WEDDING SERVICE

Pre-Marital Inventory: Prepare & Enrich \$35.00 (paid directly when assessment is taken).

Check, money order, or cash payable to: Erin Presbyterian Church		
Sanctuary		\$475.00
Informal or Chapel usage only		\$125.00
Chancel Candelabras (optional)		(\$ 40.00)
Check, money order, or cash paid individually to:		
Pastor: classes, counsel, rehearsal and wedding		\$250.00
Organist	wedding only rehearsal additional	\$200.00 \$ 50.00
Sound Technician-preparations and sound for wedding & rehearsal		\$100.00
Custodian-cleaning after the ceremony		\$ 60.00

CANCELLATION POLICY:

If wedding is cancelled we will refund 50% up to 31 days prior. No refund less than 30 days.

Cancellation policy if due to military deployment, Erin Church, in agreement with couple will expedite, to the best of our ability, a new date. If not possible (due to military deployment only) couple will receive 75% refund up to 31 days.

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS:

BRIDE

GROOM

Father's Name
Living (yes or no)

Mother's Maiden Name
Living (yes or no)

Parents divorced, separated

Step-parent's Names

Brother's Name's

Sister's Names

WITNESS:

Name
Address
City, State Zip

Bridesmaids: _____

Ushers: _____

Groomsmen: _____

Other attendants: _____

Music: Organist _____ Soloist _____ Other _____

Number of Guests: _____ Name of Florist: _____

Name of Photographer: _____

Reception Venue: _____ Time: _____

Address after marriage: _____

City

State

Zip

We have read the church policies regarding weddings, and we agree to abide by them.

Bride: _____

Groom: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

For Office Use Only

Bride: _____

Groom: _____

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Minister officiating at ceremony: _____

Organist playing at ceremony: _____

Sanctuary Fee: \$450.00

form of payment: Check # _____ Money order _____ Cash _____

Date paid: _____

License Number: _____

Sundays in church: 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

Revised: June 2015