

St. Mark's Wedding Policy

St. Mark's Lutheran Church of Olathe, Kan., is dedicated to the glory of God and joyful worship. To maintain the church as a house of worship, the Church Council has established the following church use policy in regard to weddings.

WEDDING GUIDELINES

Weddings at St. Mark's Lutheran Church are services of worship, in which the Rite of Marriage is included. We want your wedding at St. Mark's to be a meaningful worship service—to honor the love that is a gift from God—a love that the two of you share together as a couple. Pastor Kris Dietzen will assist you in preparing for your wedding and life together through three Pre-Marriage sessions, wedding service planning, and the selection of scriptures for your service. Our organist, Tom Watgen, will assist you with the selection of music if you prefer traditional music; our Disciples of Faith praise band will assist you with the selection of music if you prefer contemporary music.

Please begin by booking your date directly with Pastor Kris Dietzen to schedule your wedding date. She can be reached at the church (913-764-4496), on her cell phone (913-702-6952), or at home (913-780-4337). Her e-mail is pastorkris@stmarksolathe.org.

WEDDING FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS

SANCTUARY USE FEE	\$200 (nonrefundable \$100 deposit to secure date)
FELLOWSHIP HALL	\$100 (for Rehearsal Dinner or Reception)
ST. MARK'S MUSICIAN	\$200
SOLOIST	\$100 (Tom can assist in lining up a soloist)
BENCH FEE	\$125 (if no St. Mark's musicians are used)
PASTOR	\$500 (Pre-Marriage Counseling, Rehearsal, and Wedding Service)

ALL FEES ARE TO BE PAID IN CASH BY THE LAST PRE-MARRIAGE SESSION. Please put the fees in separate envelopes so that Pastor Kris can distribute them appropriately. Also, bring your Marriage License to the last Pre-Marriage session.

MUSIC

1. St. Mark's does not have a soloist at the present time. Arrangements would have to be made by the bride and groom for any soloist.

2. Only sacred music appropriate to worship will be used. Music approved for the worship service will be selected in consultation with the pastor and St. Mark's organist. The fees charged by the organist and/or soloist will be the bride and groom's responsibility and must be paid at the last pre-marriage session.

DECORATIONS

1. The chancel furniture and furnishings will not be moved. Drip-less candles must be used with protectors to protect any and all linens on the furnishings.
2. Decorations may be attached to seating areas with low tack tape; no nails or glue.
3. Paraments will be in keeping with the church season.
4. Any equipment rented or borrowed (kneeling bench, floor runner, candelabra, etc.) will be removed by the wedding party immediately following the ceremony.
5. It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to advise the florist on the above decorating limitations.

PICTURE-TAKING

Picture-taking shall not disrupt the wedding service. Pictures may be taken before and after the ceremony. No flashes are allowed during the ceremony. A camcorder or camera may be used unobtrusively at the back of the sanctuary or at a fixed location on the side.

DRESSING AREA

Dressing areas are available for the wedding party. Any clothing and personal items must be removed immediately following the ceremony.

REHEARSAL

The rehearsal preferably will be the evening prior to the wedding. All wedding party participants should be in attendance.

RECEPTION

Any serving equipment brought in must be removed immediately following the reception. This includes leftover cake, punch, table linens, etc. St. Mark's prohibits the use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, rice, and confetti. (Exception: Champagne toast for the bride and groom.) Birdseed may be thrown *outside* of the church building.

CHURCH USE AGREEMENT

The bride and groom agree to sign the *Church Use Agreement* and abide by its terms.