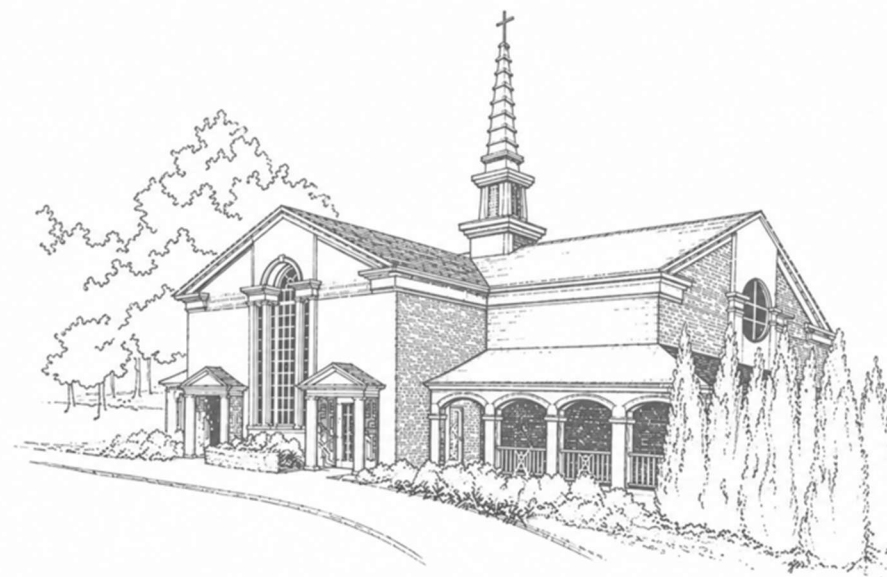




WEDDING

Planning Guide

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN

Wedding Planning Guide

"Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."
— Colossians 3:14

As you prepare for marriage, Westminster Presbyterian Church is honored to walk alongside you. A wedding at Westminster Presbyterian Church is an act of Christian worship in which two people make lifelong promises before God and the gathered community of faith.

In marriage, two people enter into a covenant relationship marked by love, faithfulness, mutual care, and shared discipleship. The wedding service publicly witnesses these promises and asks God's blessing upon the life the couple will build together.

We recognize that planning a wedding involves many decisions and details. This guide is designed to help you understand the process, explore available options, and prepare for a service that is meaningful, joyful, and reflective of your faith.

We look forward to celebrating with you as you begin this new chapter of life together.

Audio and Technology

Sound system support is available for ministers, readers, soloists, and musicians.

Only Westminster-approved sound operators may operate church audio equipment.

Pre-recorded video presentations are not permitted before or during the wedding ceremony.

Additional technology needs should be discussed during the planning process.

Fees & Costs

Service	Fee
Westminster Wedding Director (to be paid directly)	\$250
Sanctuary (non-members)	\$500
Chapel (non-members)	\$250
Custodial Fee (per service provided)	\$100
Fellowship Hall (per use)	\$100
Westminster Sound Operator (per hour, paid directly)	\$100
Prepare/Enrich Premarital Assessment Workbook	\$35

Fees are subject to change.

An invoice for fees will be issued.

Guidelines

- Wedding decorations may not damage floors, furniture, walls, or fixtures.
- Nails, screws, staples, tacks, or adhesives may not be used.
- Wedding decorations may not be attached to lighting fixtures or worship furnishings.
- All candles must be enclosed or otherwise protected to prevent wax damage.
- Rice, confetti, and glitter are not permitted.
- All wedding decorations must be removed immediately following the service.
- Westminster's seasonal and liturgical decorations must remain in worship spaces and may not be removed, relocated, or altered.

Families may choose to leave flowers for Sunday worship or donate them for delivery to homebound members.

Church Facilities

Designated preparation rooms are available for the wedding party.

While every effort will be made to protect personal belongings, Westminster cannot assume responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

All personal belongings should be removed immediately following the wedding.

Westminster Presbyterian Church is a smoke-free, vape-free, and alcohol-free facility.

All weddings and related events are subject to Westminster Presbyterian Church's Facilities Use Policies and Guidelines. Couples are responsible for ensuring that members of the wedding party, vendors, caterers, and guests comply with these policies.

Questions regarding facility use should be directed to the Westminster Wedding Director or church office.

Preparing for Marriage

Premarital Counseling

Westminster asks all couples to participate in premarital counseling prior to their wedding.

Preparation for marriage includes conversations with a Westminster pastor and completion of a relationship assessment tool such as Prepare/Enrich. These conversations help couples explore communication, expectations, faith, family relationships, and the commitments of Christian marriage.

In certain circumstances, counseling may be completed with another approved professional in consultation with a Westminster pastor.

Scheduling Your Wedding

To begin planning:

- Contact the church office to inquire about available dates.
- A Westminster pastor must approve the proposed wedding date.
- All weddings remain tentative until approved by the pastor who will officiate.
- A deposit is required to reserve the date.

Because weddings at Westminster are services of Christian worship, a Westminster pastor presides over all weddings held on church property.

If a couple wishes for another clergy person to participate, Westminster clergy will extend the invitation and determine, in consultation with the guest minister, the portion of the service they will lead.

Westminster Wedding Director

A Westminster Wedding Director will be assigned to assist you throughout the planning process.

The Wedding Director will:

- Coordinate the rehearsal
- Assist with wedding-day logistics
- Help organize the wedding party
- Work with vendors and church staff
- Ensure the service proceeds smoothly

The Westminster Wedding Director serves as the primary point of contact for ceremony logistics.

Worship Planning

A Christian wedding is a service of worship that celebrates God's gift of marriage and asks God's blessing upon the covenant being made.

Westminster pastors will work closely with couples to plan the service, including the selection of scripture readings, prayers, music, and other worship elements.

Order of Service *(adjustments as needed)*

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Prelude | • Exchange of Rings |
| • Processional | • Declaration of Marriage |
| • Welcome | • Prayers of the People |
| • Prayer | • Lord's Prayer |
| • Scripture Reading(s) | • Benediction |
| • Homily | • Recessional |
| • Exchange of Vows | |

Music

Westminster's music staff is available to assist with planning music for your wedding service.

Because weddings at Westminster are acts of Christian worship, all music must be appropriate to the sacred setting and reflect the spirit of Christian marriage.

To discuss music selections or musician availability, please contact the Director of Music Ministries.

Pre-recorded music is not permitted during the wedding service.

Photography and Videography

Wedding photographs and video recordings provide lasting memories of this important day while respecting the worshipful nature of the ceremony.

All photographers and videographers must follow Westminster's Wedding Photography & Videography Policy, including requirements regarding camera placement, movement during the ceremony, flash photography, and equipment operation.

The Westminster Wedding Director has final authority regarding photography and videography during the ceremony.

A signed copy of the Wedding Photography & Videography Policy must be returned at least one month prior to the wedding date.

Wedding Flowers and Decorations

The Sanctuary and Chapel are sacred spaces designed for Christian worship. Wedding flowers and decorations should complement the beauty of these spaces while respecting church furnishings and traditions.