

LUTHERAN CHURCH BY THE LAKE
Highway 378 and Twelve Oaks Drive
McCormick, South Carolina 29835
(864) 391-3000

WEDDINGS

A Christian wedding is a service of worship celebrating the union of one man and one woman in holy matrimony. The bride and groom come to the church to enter the presence of God and ask God to bless their new life together. Wedding service is a sacred time, which reflects our faith in God. Couples are given a great deal of flexibility in shaping their own service as it shows our trust in God's grace.

1. Arrangements

Contact the pastor at least three months in advance to arrange meeting and counseling times. Weddings will not be scheduled during Holy Week or on major church festivals, because of the special character of those dates.

2. Pastor

Couples will meet with the pastor to discuss the nature of marriage and to plan the service. If you wish another pastor to participate in your wedding, let the pastor know. If you wish another pastor to officiate at your wedding, let the pastor know so that he can request approval from the Congregational Council. The pastor will direct the rehearsal, which is about ¾ hour long, and pastor conducts the wedding, usually 20-30 minutes.

3. Fees

Fees are itemized on the "Wedding Fees" sheet attached

4. Alcohol and Smoking

LCBTL is a **smoke free** building. Our alcohol policy for the ARK fellowship hall is included with the *Building Rental Agreement*.

5. Flowers

You may select the florist of your choice. Flowers are to be placed on the flower stands. No decoration for special events shall be affixed to the walls or furnishings.

Flower petals are not to be thrown on the floor to avoid staining the carpet.

All flowers must be removed from the church.

10/2022

Note: The paraments remain the color of the season. The Altar Book and church candles remain in place. Flowers are not to be placed on any other furnishings.

6. Assistants

Consider having members of your families, wedding party or friends be an assistant in the wedding service by reading a scripture lesson, saying a prayer, or offering some comments.

7. Music

Music should be selected to add to the spirit of worship. It is important to consult with the organist or pianist to select appropriate instrumental and vocal music.

8. Candles

If you provide for additional candles or candelabras, please make arrangements so that wax does not drip on the floor.

9. Picture Taking

Photographs may be taken during the processional and recessional. No flash photos are allowed during the worship service. Video taping may be done from the back or side of the sanctuary. After the service you may return to the chancel for additional pictures. Chancel furnishings may not be moved. Please inform the photographers of this.

10. Receptions

If the reception is to be held at the church, **alcoholic beverages** may be served in the ARK *with Council approval only*. Also note that this is a **smoke free building**.

11. Rice or Bird Seed are not permitted

12. Church Hours

The Church is open M-F 8:30 AM-12:30 PM. If a delivery is being made or someone wants to be in the church, arrangements will have to be made. For the rehearsal, the church will be opened ten minutes before time and for the wedding, one hour.

13. At the Rehearsal

At the rehearsal, remember to bring the South Carolina Marriage License, usually acquired from the McCormick County Court House.