

Delaware Christian Church Wedding Handbook

Congratulations on your engagement!

We share your excitement and happiness as you make your wedding plans and begin the beautiful adventure of marriage! Marriage is a gift from God and Delaware Christian Church is anxious to serve you throughout your planning process. We will do our best to make your wedding a joyous and God glorifying day!

The wedding handbook for Delaware Christian Church is your guide to answering as many questions as possible as you plan your wedding ceremony.

If, after reading this guide, you decide to hold your wedding at Delaware Christian Church or reserve a DCC Pastor for your ceremony elsewhere, please contact the church office, fill out the application and submit a \$50 deposit for church member or a \$100 deposit for non-church members at the church office (deposit will be deducted from the remainder of fees).

Jennifer Condo, DCC Church Administrator, will contact you to set up the next step.



Delaware Christian Church
2280 West William St · Delaware, Ohio 43015
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Weddings at Delaware Christian Church

Step 1

Contact church office to request information on having a wedding at DCC.

Step 2

Read wedding handbook; return wedding application and building request form.

Step 3

Minister reviews application then contacts you to arrange a meeting.

Step 4

Schedule counseling sessions with minister.

Step 5

Wedding workers are assigned and deposit for church building is due.

Step 6

Wedding coordinator contacts you to review handbook and begin wedding planning.

Step 7

Finalize details and make all final payments at the rehearsal.

Step 8

Enjoy a beautiful wedding!

Wedding Policy

Marriage was created by and is a gift from God to be enjoyed by one man and one woman for a lifetime! Since God ordained marriage and created those involved in it, He desires to be a part of each marriage to add His direction and blessing.

As we read God's Word in the Bible, we are confronted with basic facts and principles which must be understood and applied if joy and fulfillment is to be experienced in marriage. Ignoring these principles is to ignore God and His design and results in marital frustration and/or divorce.

Because Delaware Christian Church is committed to God, His principles, and building strong marriages, the following scriptures and guideline shall serve as principles for marriage.

These policies govern Delaware Christian Church's pastors. Some circumstances require discretion regarding implementation.

Scriptures concerning marriage which form the basis for the decisions made regarding weddings performed at Delaware Christian Church and by our pastors:

- A. Genesis 2:18; 2:21-24
- B. Matthew 19: 3-12
- C. Luke 16:18
- D. I Corinthians 7:1-40
- E. Colossians 3:18-19
- F. Matthew 5: 31-32
- G. Mark 10:2-12
- H. Romans 7:1-2
- I. Ephesians 5:21-33
- J. I Peter 3:1-2

Who can be married at Delaware Christian Church and by whom?

We will marry those who are members of Delaware Christian Church, relatives of members or those who have been in worship attendance for at least six months.

DCC adheres to the Biblical definition of marriage based on God's word that indicates marriage is a Holy Covenant between one man and one woman. We will not officiate or host a marriage or marriage—like ceremony outside this definition.

No pastor of DCC will marry a couple if one of the other pastors of the church has declined to perform the ceremony for reasons other than a scheduling conflict.

All weddings at DCC will be supervised by a wedding coordinator or a DCC pastor who is officiating the wedding. However, on officiating the wedding, exceptions can be made for family members of the bride or groom who are clergy. In these cases, the wedding coordinator must approve the wedding and have a conversation with the officiating pastor regarding church affiliation and role. The ceremony outline will be sent to the officiating pastor by the wedding coordinator.

Wedding Policy Cont.:

We understand life can be complicated and unpredictable at times so couples who are living together, couples who have been divorced must meet with the pastor performing the Ceremony for counsel and encouragement (pre-marital counseling).

Marriage ceremonies will not be conducted if either the bride or the groom come to the wedding under the influence of alcohol or drugs (other than those prescribed by a physician). Any member of the wedding party who comes to the wedding under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be allowed to participate in the ceremony.

Building Use Policy

- Weddings will be scheduled according to the availability of the minister and the church building. Scheduling is to be done through the church office which will then guide you through the rest of the process.
- The wedding will not conflict with regularly scheduled DCC & DCA activities. Weddings will not be performed 2 weeks after or prior to Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. Weddings will not be performed on Sundays.
- Alcoholic beverages, smoking and vulgarity are not permitted in the building. Birdseed, rice, confetti, rose petals and other items are not permitted in and around the building.
- If you would like to use the nursery for young children during the ceremony, please notify the wedding coordinator. This space must be reserved at the same time the building is reserved. DCC will not arrange for child care in the nursery. The bride and groom are responsible for ensuring that children are supervised by an adult at all times.
- Musical equipment owned by DCC may not be moved or used without oversight by the Worship Pastor.
- Please restrain wedding guests and wedding party from wandering the facility and occupying areas not scheduled for use.
- The bride and groom agree to assume responsibility for all liabilities incident to the occupancy of building or grounds use; it is understood and agreed that the church assumes no obligation regarding the use of premises.
- The bride and groom will be responsible for the replacement or cleaning cost of of any church property which is damaged during the process of the wedding.
- The reserved areas will be arranged with tables and chairs as requested at the time of reservation; there is a set up fee for chairs and tables which is outlined in the fee schedule.
- Nothing may be affixed to the walls or furniture in the assigned areas or along the hallways leading to the reserved space.
- The stage decorations change periodically throughout the year. These decorations cannot be changed or removed for a wedding unless pre-arranged with the Worship Pastor.
- Every wedding involving a DCC minister and performed at the DCC building will be assigned a wedding coordinator (see fee schedule).

Wedding Preparation:

- Since a Christian wedding is a worship celebration, all music should be appropriate for such an event.
- Photographers and videographers are welcome to photograph and record the entire service.
- Communion may be offered to the bride and groom if requested. We are unable to serve communion to your guests.
- Wedding rehearsal: because of time constraints, musicians may be able to do sound checks at rehearsal. The entire wedding party needs to be present at the hour scheduled for rehearsal.
- Bring Marriage License to the rehearsal.
- Bring all payments for building usage and wedding personnel to the rehearsal. Payments should be given to the wedding coordinator who will distribute to the appropriate parties.
- Wedding bulletins and handouts are the responsibility of the bride and groom. DCC does not print or create wedding bulletins.

Wedding Fees & Requirements

All fees are based upon your relationship with this church. Since our members/attenders already contribute and support DCC's programs and facilities, we do not require the same fees for them.

If you do not currently attend DCC, we invite you to worship with us. Couples who attend worship at DCC for at least 6 Sundays (consecutively if possible) before their wedding are welcome to pay the "member/attender" rate. Your wedding coordinator will help you write and deliver individual checks for the minister, coordinator, custodian, sound & light technicians and chair set up personnel. All payments are due in full by the wedding day. Payment for the church building should be made to Delaware Christian Church no later than the Monday prior to the ceremony.

	Member/Attender	Non-Member
Building Rental	No Charge	\$300
Custodian*	\$35	\$50
Sound Tech*	\$80	\$100
Wedding Coordinator*	\$200	\$250
Chair Set Up*	\$35	\$50
Minister**	\$200	\$300
Pianist***	\$50	\$100

* DCC personnel must be used.

** Guest ministers may be used if approved by the Senior Minister.

*** If DCC arranges for a pianist, the bride and groom will pay the pianist individually. If the bride and groom have a pianist they would like to use, the church office needs to be notified so approval can be given from the Worship Pastor.

Counseling:

Counseling sessions (usually 4-6) are required and administered by the minister performing the ceremony. There will be a fee for materials used during the counseling sessions (\$10-\$15). These informal sessions are designed to improve your love relationship and prepare you for a life long marriage. No wedding will be performed until all sessions and assignments are completed.

Wedding Application
Delaware Christian Church

Bride's Information

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____ Home Phone _____
Work Phone _____ Email _____
Do you attend church regularly? _____ Where? _____
What (if any) church affiliation have you had in the past?
Marital Status: _____Never Married _____Widowed _____Divorced

Groom's Information

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____ Home Phone _____
Work Phone _____ Email _____
Do you attend church regularly? _____ Where? _____
What (if any) church affiliation have you had in the past?
Marital Status: _____Never Married _____Widowed _____Divorced

Wedding Information

Date/Time of Wedding: _____
Style: _____Formal _____ Informal (simple exchange of vows with a few family and friends)
How many do you anticipate attending? _____
Are there any unique plans (readings, music, gifts to parents, guest ministers, etc.)? _____

Tell us about your relationship:

Having read the DCC Wedding Handbook, we understand and agree to all of the terms within the handbook regarding scheduling, counseling, fees and facilities and will be responsible to see that everyone involved with our wedding abides by them.

Groom's Signature: _____

Bride's Signature: _____

Please return this application to the church office along with a signed building use form.

Keep the DCC Wedding Handbook for your reference.

Mail to: Delaware Christian Church, 2280 West William St, Delaware OH 43015

Email to: jenn@dccwired.org