

# Frequently asked questions:

## **Do the Bride and groom have to go to premarital counseling?**

Yes. This can be done through Lutheran Social Services or Mark Britzman at [MBritzman@alliancecom.net](mailto:MBritzman@alliancecom.net). Call and make an appointment at least 3 months before your wedding date. If you don't live in the Sioux Falls area, you can call the church and we will help you find a place for premarital counseling.

## **Can my pastor from my home church marry us in your church?**

Yes, as long as he is an ELCA affiliated pastor.

## **Do I need to have an organist?**

No, you can select music from CD's. Make sure it is of Christian origin

## **Do I need to have my invitations approved before printing?**

No

## **Do I need to have my wedding programs pre-approved before printing?**

Yes, the pastor has to approve the song selection and make sure the service is in the correct order. If the song is not a popular one, you may need to email or mail the words to the music to his attention here at East Side.

[Lon@eastidelc.org](mailto:Lon@eastidelc.org). After the pastor approves the layout, you can then print the programs.

## **Can I have an isle runner?**

No

## **Can I decorate the pews?**

Yes you can, however, you must use rubber bands or plastic hanging hooks. NO staples, tape, etc...

There are 30 pews. 15 on each side.

## **Do I need a wedding coordinator?**

Yes, the wedding coordinator is here to assist you with questions regarding what is allowed in the church and what is not. She will make follow up calls to the florist, limo company and photographer for reminder calls. All questions should be directed to her. If she can't answer the question, she will investigate and return a call to you.

## **When do I need to make a payment?**

The first step is to call the church with a date in mind. If the date is open, then the costs vary by whether you are a member or not. \$100 for members, \$450 for non-members. The deposit holds the date. The first person who selects the date also selects the time of the wedding. The times a wedding can be scheduled between 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

## **Can I throw real rose petal down the isle, or outside following the ceremony?**

No, real rose petals are allowed, no bird seed and no rice. Only bubbles or bells can be use outside.

## **How do I know what time to have rehearsal dinner?**

This depends on how long it takes for practicing walking up and down the isle. The rehearsal usually only takes 45 minutes. During the rehearsal the Pastor will ask the wedding party to join in the sanctuary. A prayer will be said and then the Pastor will ask the couple and wedding party to take there places up front just how they want them for their wedding day. The Pastor will go over the service order, have the wedding party walk out, then back in and answer any questions you may have. There will be a few brief words from the wedding coordinator and then you will be free to go to your rehearsal dinner.

## **When will I meet with the organist?**

It is best to meet with the organist 2 weeks prior to the wedding to select songs to be played.

## **When and where do I get my marriage license?**

You need to get your license at the court house. Please bring both the license and decorative license to the church office 1 week prior to the wedding. After signing the day of the wedding, the church office staff will mail the original to the court house.

## **What items should I bring to the rehearsal at the church?**

This is a good time to bring the guest book, unity candle and 2 single candles, basket or box decorated for cards, bubbles if you are using them, programs and wedding dress.