GENERAL INFORMATION FOR WEDDINGS

Before a date can be confirmed the couple must speak with a minister at First United Church. Once approved, non-members and members are required to pay a non-refundable fee. Please see the Fees section on page 2. A final check for the remainder of the fees, made payable to First United Church, is due at the church no later than two weeks prior to the wedding.

A minister of First United Church will officiate at all weddings, though another minister may be invited to assist.

Illinois Marriage License Requirements: You may apply for a marriage license at any county clerk's office in Cook County. Illinois law allows you to get married one day after officially receiving a marriage license, though it expires after sixty days.

Wedding Planning/Counseling: The couple normally meets with the officiating minister at least twice before the wedding for wedding planning and marriage counseling. These meetings should be scheduled well in advance of the wedding ceremony.

Music: All music must be chosen with and approved by the church organist

Rehearsals: Normally a wedding rehearsal is required. Consult with the minister about an appropriate time.

Candelabra: Candelabra are available at the church but you must provide your own candles. Each candelabrum holds seven candles. You are also responsible to provide the wedding ("unity") candle if one is used.

Photography: Flash pictures may be taken from the back of the sanctuary or chapel during the processional and the recessional. Flash pictures are **not** permitted during the ceremony itself. There should be no photography in the front of the sanctuary/chapel. Parts of the service may be reenacted afterwards for pictures.

Videotaping: Videotaping is permitted but should be done in such a way that it does not disrupt the ceremony – preferably from the balcony or off to the side of the chancel. Please consult with the minister beforehand.

Aisle Length: The length of the aisle is 75 feet in the sanctuary; 45 feet in the chapel. Runners are available from florists.

Flowers: The church building is open until noon on Saturday. The building will re-open one hour before the ceremony. Your flowers must be delivered when the building is open. Elaborate floral and/or candle arrangements must be approved by the minister performing the ceremony. The pews may not be decorated.

Kneeling Bench: A kneeling bench is available for weddings. If you would like to u the kneeling bench, please make arrangements in advance.

Dressing Room: The Brides Room in the lower Narthex is available as a dress room for the bride and attendants.

Throwing Birdseed: Throwing rice is not permitted. Birdseed is acceptable. Howev we ask that you not come back into the building after the birdseed is thrown to av tracking birdseed into the church. Bubbles are not permitted inside the church.

Order of Worship: If you wish to have a printed order of worship for your wedding is your responsibility to have it done.

Comfort: **Our sanctuary and chapel are not air-conditioned.** You may want keep this in mind as you are selecting a date for your wedding.

FEES:
For non-members the fees are as follows:
A non-refundable deposit of $700.00 is required immediately upon the confirmat of the wedding date with the minister.
-Sanctuary wedding: $2350.00 (includes facility, minister, organist, wedding coordinat and custodial services, and the non-refundable deposit).
-Chapel wedding: $1700.00 includes all of the above services.

For members:
A non-refundable deposit of $400.00 is required immediately upon confirmation the wedding date with the minister.
-Sanctuary or Chapel wedding: $675.00 (includes the organist, the weddi Coordinator, and custodial services, and the non-refundable deposit).
The ministers perform all weddings of members without fee as a service of th ministry. No charge is made to our members for use of the sanctuary or chapel.
An honorarium for the minister is not included in the fee schedule.

Member Reception: An additional charge of $300 for custodial services is made our members for the use of the kitchen and dining room facilities for wedd receptions/rehearsal dinners. **No alcoholic beverages may be served.** If there i wedding reception on Saturday evening, it must be over by 9:00 PM. Facilities receptions are not available on Sunday.

The dining room and kitchen facilities are for the use of members of the church onl and **will not** be rented out for the use of nonmembers.

First United Church Contacts:

Julie Harley, Lead Pastor, ext. 22, jrh@firstunitedoakpark.com
Mamie Broadhurst, Associate Pastor, ext 25, mamie@firstunitedoakpark.com
Kelly Brouwer, Associate Pastor, ext 26, kelly@firstunitedoakpark.com
Cathryn Wilkinson, Organist, ext 61, Cathryn@firstunitedoakpark.com
Judith Loevy, Wedding Coordinator, ext 40, operations@firstunitedoakpark.com

FIRST UNITED CHURCH of Oak Park

An open community united

In love & justice

To Help Plan Your Wedding

The essence of marriage is a covenanted commitment that ha its foundation in the faithfulness of God's love….

First United Church of Oak Park

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