

Grace Community Church believes that the wedding ceremony is a very sacred time of worship. It is a beautiful Christian ceremony in which a man and a woman invoke the blessings of God in holy wedlock.

Weddings at Grace are performed by one of the pastors on staff and pre-marital counseling is required. **Our facility is available only to those who are members or regular attenders.** Exceptions are occasionally made upon pastor approval.

The pastors of Grace Community Church, as well as the church family, want to do all that is within their capabilities to make your wedding a beautiful and worshipful event.

- I. The first step in arranging a wedding at Grace Community Church is to meet with a pastor. No facilities will be reserved until after a pastor has agreed to marry the couple. The wedding date should be set at least six months in advance and must be cleared with the church office. The rehearsal date will also be set at that time.
- II. Pre-marital counseling appointments usually begin three months prior to the wedding ceremony and usually take 4- 8 weeks to complete.
- III. After the wedding date has been set, a meeting with the wedding coordinator is necessary to make further plans, discuss ideas and quote costs. You must use a Grace Community Church coordinator. She will also be present at the wedding rehearsal and will be assisting in whatever way possible during the wedding ceremony.
- IV. Preferably, the rehearsal should take place the evening before the wedding. Those present should be the Bride and Groom's parents, the entire wedding party, the pianist, the sound tech, and the soloist. Please insist that everyone participating in the ceremony be present at the rehearsal. The wedding coordinator will walk you through the rehearsal and answer any questions you may have.
- V. The choice of music for the wedding should reflect the Christian view of life, love and commitment. Contemporary music may be used but must be cleared by a pastor. You may feel free to select your own soloist and pianist or call the music pastor or wedding coordinator for the names of church soloists and pianists. The soloist should contact the pianist to arrange a rehearsal before the wedding, if necessary.

VI. Approval from the wedding coordinator is required prior to decorating the church or any portion of the facilities that may be used for the ceremony or reception. Only dripless candles may be used, unless the carpet is covered with a protective sheet.

VII. Pictures taken during the ceremony by the photographer must be approved by the pastor. The wedding coordinator will communicate with the photographer to remain off to the side and not interfere with the wedding service. If you would like the pastor to be in any photos, please take those first as he may have other appointments.

VIII. Smoking or the use of alcoholic beverages are not permitted in or on any part of the church buildings or property for insurance reasons. Confetti, rice and birdseed are not permitted inside or out of the church.

IX. Saturday weddings should begin no later than 3pm, (or 2pm if the reception is also at the church), to permit buildings to be restored to order for Sunday services. A maximum of 4 hours is allowed for your event. Church facilities are not available on Sundays.

X. **The marriage license and all payment of fees for personal services (the pastor, organist, soloist, custodian, coordinator, etc.) should be paid the night of the rehearsal. Cash or a check to the individual in an envelope with the individual's name on it is preferred. These payments may be given to the coordinator and she will give them to the appropriate individuals. The fee for the pastor, commensurate with the important part he is in the service, is traditionally provided by the Groom. This fee includes consultation, counseling, preparation and administration of the service.**

PLEASE NOTE: Any wedding activity having to do with church facilities (i.e. decorating, set up, rehearsal dinner, use of kitchen), must be discussed and cleared with the wedding coordinator and the church office well in advance to make sure there are no last minute conflicts.

Fees are as follows:

- I. GCC PASTOR ** \$400.00
This includes the pre-marital counseling sessions as well as the rehearsal and ceremony. Pre-marital counselling is required (a minimum of 4 sessions) and you may or may not meet with the pastor performing the ceremony.
- II. GCC WEDDING COORDINATOR **
A. Rehearsal and Wedding \$250.00
B. Rehearsal, Wedding, & Reception 300.00
C. Reception only 100.00
Shannon Wells, 564-2158
Kristi Blatner, 786.2382
Debbie Scroggins, 302.8826
- III. MUSIC
A. Pianist/Organist 100.00
B. Soloist 75.00
- IV. SOUND SYSTEM *
A. Sound Technician (rehearsal & wedding) 100.00
B. Sound Technician (reception) 50.00
C. PowerPoint/Lighting Technician (upon request) 50.00
- V. CUSTODIAL/KITCHEN *
A. Worship Center 100.00
B. Fellowship Hall (\$35/section) 100.00
C. Student Center 100.00
D. Modular Building (each) 35.00
E. Rehearsal Dinner (set-up) 35.00
F. Kitchen Coordinator (per hour fee) 15.00
(required for rehearsal dinner and/or reception)
- VI. OUT OF TOWN WEDDINGS*** (applies to pastor & coordinator)
A. Hotel Accomodations
B. Mileage at \$0.54/mile

* Required for weddings held at GCC

** Required for all weddings

*** Required for weddings held out of town

Weddings At Grace



Grace Community Church of Visalia
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