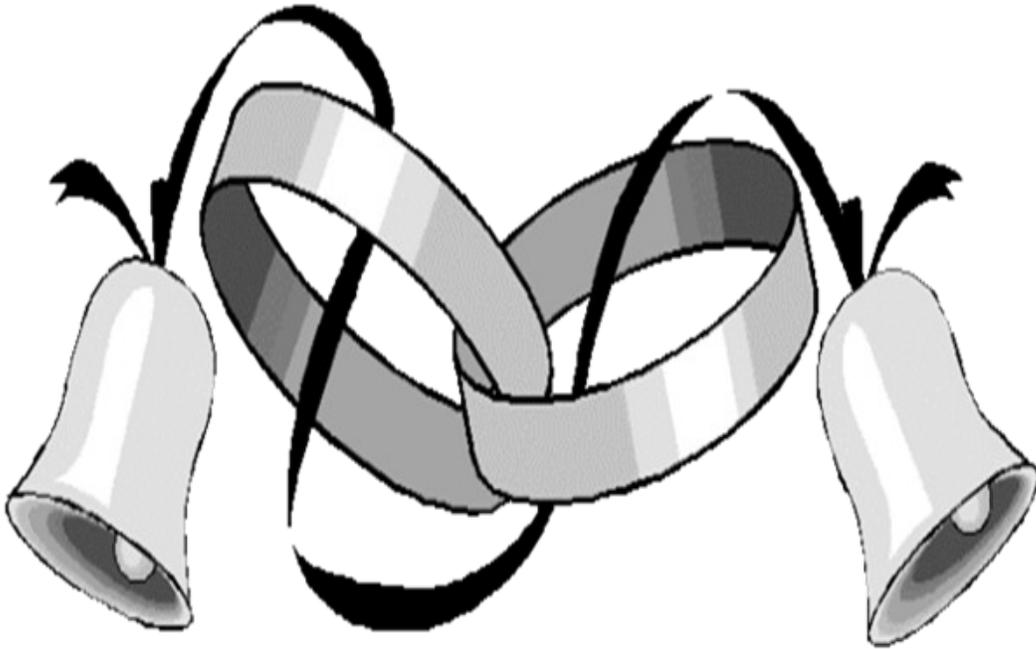


WEDDING PLANNING



First United Methodist Church

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Trenton, MI 48183
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Rev. Heidi Reinker
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Weddings at First United Methodist Church of Trenton

We are glad that you are considering Trenton First United Methodist as the place for your wedding ceremony. This information will help you know a little about what we do here and what you can expect from us as you prepare for your wedding..

A church wedding is a service of Christian worship. Couples married in the church offer a public witness to their belief in God, and celebrate their experience of God in the love they have found in each other. Therefore, we encourage persons married in this sanctuary to be open to the claim that God has made on your lives and ask that you would prayerfully consider a church home as a place to get the tools necessary to ground your relationship as you grow in love over the life of your marriage.

Couples who are married at Trenton First UMC are required to engage in pre-marital counseling with the pastor. This will require approximately 3-4 one hour long sessions and will also include planning your wedding ceremony. Couples should plan to set aside time for these meetings as they will only foster a more solid foundation upon which you can enter into married life. Any exceptions to this requirement are at the Pastor's discretion.

As you plan your wedding, we pray that God would be with you in the process ,and we will be delighted to work with you in preparing for your wedding and life together!

In The Peace of Christ,
Rev. Heidi Reinker

Our Church Building

One of the great charms of our church is its age. Our sanctuary was constructed in 1926 and remodeled in the 1940's. The building itself has tremendous character, from the original Pewabic tiles that decorate the vestibule into the sanctuary, to the ornate stucco ceilings. The sanctuary itself is furnished with beautiful dark oak pews and a high vaulted ceiling. You can even ring in your special day with our original, working pull-rope bell tower.

The Sanctuary can accommodate most wedding sizes as it seats about 237, with seating for 165 on the main floor (including 2 wheelchair spaces, close to a wheelchair accessible, unisex restroom) and seating for 72 more in the balcony.

Suggested Hymns

For the Beauty of the Earth.....	No. 92
When Love is Found.....	No. 643
O Perfect Love.....	No. 645
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling.....	No. 384
Morning has Broken.....	No. 145
Happy the Home When God is There.....	No. 445

Wedding Cost

Deposit Fee to hold Sanctuary Refundable up to 2 months before wedding	\$75.00	Check made out to First United Methodist Church
Member family in good standing—Sanctuary	\$0.00	\$0.00
Non-member family-Sanctuary Package Sanctuary Fee Pastor's Services	\$150.00 (balance of \$75.00) \$150.00	\$225.00 Check made out to First United Methodist church
Organist—Rehearsal & Wedding	\$150.00	Check made out to Jeff Burke
Custodian	\$75.00 (Extra for any damages or Extra Work)	Check made out to Karen Roberts
Soloist—To be negotiated on an individual basis		
Wedding Bulletins	\$10.00 per 50 copies (Cost of Paper)	

Note: Remaining Balance should be paid 3 weeks prior to the wedding.

Planning Your Wedding

Music

We encourage you to consider music for your wedding as appropriate for worship. We offer an incredible pipe organ, as well as an electronic keyboard. We also have a Music Coordinator who is familiar with these instruments, and we ask that you would work with Jeff Burke in music selection, or in procuring a soloist or additional musicians.

Decorations

You are invited to decorate the sanctuary for your wedding. If you choose to use an aisle runner you need to buy one that is fifty (50) feet in length. Please do not use tape of any kind to secure items (ie: bows) to any finished wood (pews). You may use elastic ties or plastic brackets instead. We ask this so that we can keep our sanctuary looking beautiful. We also ban the use of rice because of its ill effects on birds. We suggest birdseed as an alternative, and please, only use anything like that outside!

Pictures

It is not appropriate for pictures with a flash to be taken during the marriage ceremony. Flash photography is acceptable during the processional and recessional. Photographers are not to be in the chancel area (up by the cross). Photographers are to stay in the back two-thirds of the naïve. Video cameras are allowed during the service. However, moving about the sanctuary with a camera is not allowed. We strongly encourage that all video cameras be kept stationary and a tripod be utilized. The pastor can suggest options for the placement of a camera and tripod. You can take pictures and video after the ceremony as well.

Suggested Scripture Readings

Psalm 128.....	Blessing for the Home
Song of Solomon 2:10-14, 16a; 8:6-7.....	Love is strong as death
Isaiah 55:10-13.....	You shall go out in joy
Isaiah 61:10, 62:3.....	Rejoice in the Lord
Isaiah 63:7-9.....	The steadfast love of the Lord
Romans 12:1-2, 9-18.....	The life of a Christian
1 Corinthians 13.....	The greatest of these is love
Ephesians 2:4-10.....	God's love for us
Philippians 2:1-2.....	The Christlike spirit
Philippians 4:4-9.....	Rejoice in the Lord
Colossians 3:12-17.....	Live in love and thanksgiving
1 John 3:18-24.....	Love one another
1 John 4:7-16.....	God is love
Revelation 19:1, 5-9a.....	The wedding feast of the Lamb
Matthew 5:1-10.....	The Beatitudes
Matthew 7:21, 24-27.....	A house built upon a rock
Matthew 22:35-40.....	Love, the greatest commandment
John 2:1-11.....	The marriage feast of Cana
John 15:9-17.....	Remain in Christ's love

Traditional Order of Wedding Worship

The Prelude

The Processional

The Call to Worship

The Charge

The Declarations of Intent

The Scripture Readings

The Wedding Sermon (optional)

Special Music– Soloist ,instrumental

The Vows of Holy Matrimony

The Ring Ceremony

The Pronouncement of Marriage

The Wedding Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

The Lighting of the Unity Candle (optional)

The Benediction

The Recessional

The Postlude

We can design your wedding ceremony to reflect your personal desires.

Some Questions to Consider Regarding Your Wedding Ceremony

- How do you want to handle the processional?
- Who will be walking you down the aisle?
- Who do you want to have special seating? Who will seat them?
- How do you want your parents to offer their support?

- Readings:
 - ◊ What are you going to have read?
 - ◊ Who will be doing the readings?

- Music:
 - ◊ What, if any, solos would you like? Or other special music?
- Where in the ceremony will these selections go?
- Are you having a Unity Candle?
- How would you like to be introduced?
- Are there any other special requests that you have?
- Are any Children you plan to have involved sufficiently mature to be flower girl or ring bearer?