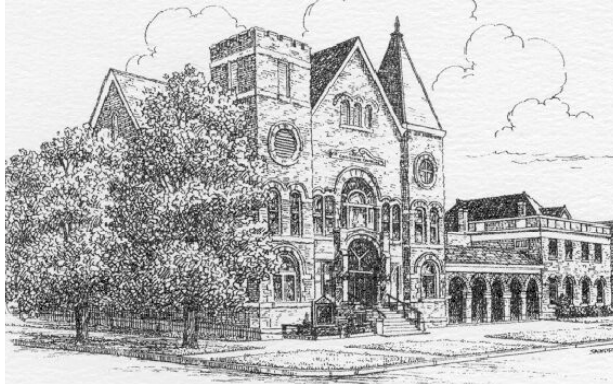


*Planning Your Wedding
at
Central Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)*



*1202 5th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701
(304)525-7727
www.HuntingtonCentral.org*

Congratulations on your decision to marry!

On behalf of our entire faith community, we rejoice with you in your upcoming wedding. I encourage you to be married in your home church. If this is not desirable or possible, I will be glad to perform your wedding as a minister of Jesus Christ. The more personal contact we have, the better the wedding will be. I look forward to opportunities to get to you know you better as we prepare for your big day!

We consider marriage to be a holy and special bond, and we are pleased that we can play a part in this celebration with you. This booklet is intended to give you all the information necessary to make this occasion a meaningful one, and to assure that the wedding and surrounding tasks run smoothly.

Please contact me with any questions, and to arrange an appointment to discuss the celebration as soon as possible. We want to get it on the church calendar right away.

I look forward to meeting with you both and assisting in making your wedding a memorable event.

Yours in Christ,

David T. Chafin

Pastor

Email: pastor@HuntingtonCentral.org

Office: 525-7727

Home: 697-5928

Cell: 633-4238

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has served the spiritual needs of downtown Huntington for over 100 years. It is our joy to welcome strangers into our midst, who quickly find themselves feeling “at home.”

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is a denomination founded on American soil in the early 1800’s, with a desire to bring unity to the church having been splintered into denominations and sects. We are strong in our beliefs concerning Christian unity and work on the local, state and denominational levels to strengthen ecumenical ties with all of God’s people.

When designing your wedding stationery and news releases, please note the name of the church (and address) as follows:

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
1202 Fifth Avenue
Huntington, West Virginia 25701

Meeting with the Pastor is an important first step toward designing your wedding celebration, as well as strengthening the beginning of your married life. You are encouraged to discuss common values, hopes, dreams, children, religious background and spiritual concerns with the minister. He can help you determine whether pastoral counsel is recommended prior to the planning of the wedding.

Your Photographer will want to be aware of two issues that are of great importance to the celebration: 1) There is to be no flash photography after the procession of the bride, until the bride and groom leave the church; and 2) The photographer is expected to keep equipment and his/her person as inconspicuous as possible throughout the service. You are encouraged to put aside the superstitions concerning not seeing one another before the ceremony, and to do all your posed photographs *before* the celebration begins. You’ll look your best, and your guests will not be stranded at your reception waiting to celebrate with you! Either way, it is important that your photographer speak with the pastor at least 30 minutes before the service begins to confirm plans.

Your Florist can suggest creative ways to enhance the visual experience of your celebration. If he/she is not familiar with our church, please have them contact us as soon as possible. The florist may not use tape, nails or tacks in the woodwork of the building.

Rice, Birdseed, Confetti, etc... We rejoice with you, but ask that you cooperate by not scattering rice, confetti, birdseed, tissue flowers or other objects either inside or outside the building. Please advise your family and wedding party of this. Additional fees will be incurred if any of these items are used.

Alcohol and Tobacco Use: While our church does not condemn or condone the use of alcohol or tobacco, we do not permit its consumption within the buildings. Further, alcohol cannot be consumed anywhere on the property.

Aisle Cloths are not recommended, due to the tripping hazard they create for you and for your guests. However, if you desire to use one, please speak with the minister concerning placement. Rose petals may not be strewn on the carpet without an aisle cloth.

Candles: We have candlesticks for use on the communion table, as well as 7-branch candelabra which may be used in the chancel. Dripless candles are required for either, and must be enclosed in a metal sleeve, which we provide. The minister can discuss costs for candle use.

Rehearsals for weddings involving no more than 4-6 adults are not required. If children are involved, or if the service is expected to be complex or the wedding party large, a rehearsal is usually required.

Music, like the ceremony, is an act of worship. It should accord with the strength and depth of feeling of the persons being married and of the prayers of the church for them. It should reflect the joy of the celebration. Music should be selected in consultation with the minister and organist. The minister will have the final determination of music to be used.

It is expected that our organist will provide the basis of the instrumental music for the service. If it is your desire to use other musicians in the service, you need to discuss it with the minister immediately. Any other person who wishes to use the organ must be approved by the organist and/or pastor prior to use. Practice times must be arranged through the church office.

Our organist is also an excellent pianist, and can help you determine the instrumental selections that will beautify your wedding.

Bulletins providing the order of worship and participants information can be produced by the church for the cost of the bulletin covers. Discuss this with the minister, who will design the bulletin for you.

Damages to facilities or furnishings beyond normal use will be billed to the principals of the wedding for the repair or replacement of them. A 10% service charge may be added.

Legalities: You are required by the state of WV to acquire a license to marry in your local courthouse. It will be valid for 30 days after issue. You must bring it with you to the wedding rehearsal (or the wedding) in order for the minister to sign and return it for you.

Final words... Our minister is in complete charge of the wedding service, the rehearsal and arrangements. Please clarify with him, prior to the rehearsal, if you have specific questions or requests.

Elements of the Wedding Celebration

*The minister will discuss your options, including wording, of elements of the service which have a * beside them.*

* Musical Preludes

* Procession (*Note that we have no central aisle.*)

Address to the Congregation

Opening Prayer

* Scripture

* Declarations: Of the couple;

Optional: Of the family; Of children; Of congregation

* Leave-taking/rose ceremony (*opt.*)

* Music (*opt.*)

* Scripture

Homily

Prayer for the Couple

* Vows (with/without giving of rings)

* Unity Candle ceremony (*opt.*)

* Music (*opt.*)

* Passing of the Peace and Communion: *If both of you desire it; this must be provided to the whole congregation, if communion is celebrated. Minister will discuss with you.*

Pronouncement of Marriage

* Benediction and Kiss

* Procession of the Bridal Party

Fees and Suggested Honoraria

Organist: \$100 (wedding with rehearsal)
 \$75 (wedding with no rehearsal)
 Make check to: Dr. Dan Martin

Soloist: Suggested—\$50 for first song; \$25 per additional song. Rehearsal attendance is customary.
 Make check to soloist individually.

Custodian: \$60 (Sanctuary rehearsal and wedding)
 \$20 (Chapel wedding)
 \$40 (Fellowship Hall reception, in addition
 to Sanctuary or Chapel charges)
 Make check to: *(consult with Minister for info)*

Minister: Customary honorarium—
 \$200 (wedding with rehearsal)
 \$100 (wedding without rehearsal)
 Make check to: Rev. David T. Chafin

Rental: There is no rental charge for use of the building if one of the parties is a member.

 For non-members: Customary fee—
 \$100 for Fellowship Hall
 There are no additional fees for use of the sanctuary, chapel, or dressing rooms, provided they are not already in use by a church function.
 Make rental fee check to: Central Christian Church

All fees for church rental are due one month in advance of the wedding date. Refunds available if requested one week in advance of wedding date. Fees to individuals listed above and minister's honorarium should be paid by the wedding date.