

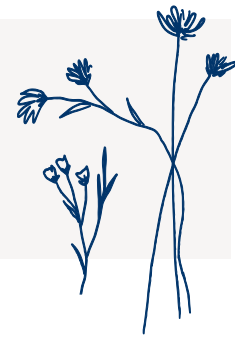


Wedding
PLANNING GUIDE

DOOR CREEK CHURCH



Congratulations on your upcoming wedding!



At Door Creek Church, we believe that marriage is a covenant between a man and a woman who make promises to each other and before God to love each other sacrificially and faithfully the way Jesus loves us. Our policies regarding weddings emerge from this conviction.

We also believe that a God-honoring marriage goes well beyond the wedding day, so we want to help couples begin their marriage on a strong spiritual foundation.

The following guide is an overview of marriage standards, practices, process and pricing that will help you plan a memorable ceremony as well as a healthy, life-long marriage.

STANDARDS FOR MARRIAGE

As a church, we believe God's design for marriage has a man and a woman uniting for life and we desire that each couple married at our church will flourish in their new relationship. We are responsible before God to marry only those people who a) have God's blessing (favor) for their marriage and b) are prepared for the demands and responsibilities of this relationship. Marriage is work! You don't expect to get other jobs without qualifications—likewise there are qualifications for marriage.

This means that as Christian pastors we cannot marry a Christian to a non-Christian (2 Corinthians 6:14). The Bible teaches that the heart of marriage is a deep spiritual oneness. If your spouse cannot understand the central motive of your heart and the driving force of your life, then this deep unity that God intends cannot be realized.

Sexual intimacy is a God-given and essential part of marriage intended to follow rather than precede a wedding ceremony. Couples seeking to be married at Door Creek Church or by a Door Creek Church pastor are encouraged to live celibately, and if possible, apart, before the wedding.

PRACTICES

SCHEDULING

We encourage couples to allow six to nine months for completion of our premarital process. We are able to work with couples on a shorter timeline but starting the process as early as possible will allow you to get the most out of it.

OFFICIANTS

Door Creek Church has a wonderful team of pastors available to officiate weddings. If you'd like someone else to officiate your wedding, please indicate this in the wedding application and we might be able to accommodate it on a case-by-case basis.

WEDDING COORDINATORS

We suggest using a Door Creek Wedding Coordinator to help with the many details (included in the price of an on-site wedding). A Door Creek Wedding Coordinator is required for onsite weddings and suggested for offsite weddings. They provide oversight and guidance for the rehearsal and ceremony.

WEDDING VENUE

Weddings can be held onsite at Specher Road Campus (6602 Dominion Drive, Madison) and at DeForest Campus (6640 Pederson Crossing, DeForest). Our officiants are also available for offsite* weddings.

*In situations where officiants travel more than 20 miles to the venue, we encourage you to compensate them for gas and mileage (per IRS standard mileage rates), as well as hotel room and meals, if necessary.

WEDDING DATE & TIME

Our buildings are not open, and our officiants are not available for weddings during holiday weekends, including New Year's, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Typically, weddings are held on Saturdays (between 9 am and 6 pm) with rehearsals on Fridays (between 9 am and 7 pm). We do not perform wedding ceremonies on Sundays.

REHEARSAL DINNERS & WEDDING RECEPTIONS

At this time, Door Creek Church is not offering wedding receptions. Rehearsal dinners for a small group of people may be allowed for an additional charge. Guests are responsible for bringing the food. The rehearsal dinner must still be held during the hours listed above.

PREMARITAL MENTORING

Couples will participate in an online premarital assessment and be paired with a marriage mentor couple from our church for five to six sessions of marriage mentoring. *If you are interested in premarital mentoring only, please fill out the [premarital mentoring application](#).

PROCESS

The premarital process is required for all couples getting married at Door Creek Church and/or using a Door Creek Church officiant. It is also available to any couple who calls Door Creek Church their home, regardless of whether they are using our facility or one of our officiants (if not, some steps may not apply).

WEDDING PLANNING GUIDE

Read through this guide and contact Dana Baugh, dbaugh@doorcreekchurch.org, with any questions.

WEDDING APPLICATION

Fill out the [wedding application](#) for the bride and groom to initiate the application process.

PASTORAL CONSULTATION

Meet with a Door Creek Church pastor in-person or via Zoom to go over the marriage standards listed above.

TOUR THE FACILITY

We encourage couples to meet with Door Creek Church staff to tour the facility and see the available accommodations.

WEDDING CONTRACT & DOWN PAYMENT

Sign the wedding contract, listing the date and location of your wedding rehearsal and ceremony. Submit a 50% down payment with the signed contract.

SYMBIS ASSESSMENT

Take the online SYMBIS (Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts) assessment, which includes topics such as mindset, wellbeing, social support, finances, expectations, personality dynamics, sexual intimacy, communication, conflict resolution and spirituality.

MEETING WITH MARRIAGE MENTORS

Be paired with a mentor couple from our church who will meet with you five or six times to work through

a premarital curriculum by SYMBIS. Topics covered will include expectations for marriage, communication, spirituality, finances and intimacy. Be prepared to spend some time on homework between sessions.

WEDDING COORDINATOR FORM

You'll be emailed the Wedding Coordinator Form to fill out about three months prior to the wedding. You'll have one month to submit it.

WEDDING COORDINATOR MEETING

Meet with your Door Creek Wedding Coordinator to discuss your rehearsal and ceremony in detail, as well as any special requests you might have (two months before wedding).

OFFICIANT MEETING

Meet with your Door Creek Church officiating pastor to discuss wedding ceremony details (six weeks prior to the wedding).

FINAL PAYMENT

Remaining 50% of the payment and security deposit are due (one month prior to the wedding).

FINAL CHECK-IN WITH THE WEDDING COORDINATOR

Connect with your Door Creek Wedding Coordinator via phone to review any last-minute questions (two weeks prior to the wedding).

PRICING

ONSITE WEDDING (Sprecher Road & DeForest Campus):

- \$1,400 for members
- \$1,575 for regular attenders
- \$1,750 for non-attenders

Prices above are based on 200 guests or less and include the following:

- Use of the facility for six hours on the wedding day and for two hours on the day of wedding rehearsal. Additional time can be purchased for \$75/hour.
- Premarital Mentoring
- Wedding Coordinator
- A/V Tech for Rehearsal and Wedding Ceremony
- Payment to the Officiating Pastor

OFFSITE WEDDING:

- \$600
- Includes premarital mentoring, one hour wedding rehearsal and one hour wedding ceremony. A Door Creek Wedding Coordinator can be added for an additional fee of \$300.
- In situations where officiants travel more than 20 miles to the venue, we encourage you to compensate them for gas and mileage (per IRS standard mileage rates), as well as hotel room and meals, if necessary.

QUESTIONS?

Email Dana at dbaugh@doorcreekchurch.org. Please don't hesitate to reach out...we are here to help!

We look forward to helping you plan your dream wedding at Door Creek Church!