



ELMBROOK
CHURCH

OFF-SITE Weddings – FAQ's

(Updated 3/2024)

Although you are not getting married in our Chapel, your wedding day and marriage are important to us. Our goal is to not only support you on your wedding day, but to also offer you a meaningful connection to Elmbrook Church and invest in your marriage beyond the ceremony.

How do we schedule an Elmbrook Pastor or Chaplain to officiate our wedding ceremony? Please complete a Wedding Application found on-line at www.elmbrook.org/marriage. We cannot guarantee an **Elmbrook officiant** will be available to perform your off-site wedding, but we will accommodate to our best ability if:

- The ceremony site is within a 50-mile radius of Elmbrook Church.
- The wedding ceremony is more than four months out from the application date.
- The ceremony is not on a Holiday weekend.

Is there a fee for using an Elmbrook officiating pastor?

There is a fee of \$475 for the pastor's services. This covers the officiant's time in pre- marriage counseling, the rehearsal and ceremony. For weddings **outside of the Brookfield/ Milwaukee area, travel fees should also be covered for the pastor** (a required .50 cents/per mile per trip). A Mileage fee will be added to an updated confirmation once the number of miles are determined.

Do we need to schedule a rehearsal?

This will depend upon your facility and their time requirements but the officiant would appreciate rehearsing with you and your wedding party prior to your ceremony.

How far in advance do we need to reserve an officiating pastor or Chaplain?

We don't want to rush the process prior to your wedding ceremony, so as a general rule we recommend six to nine months to reserve a date with the officiant. You can expect the pastor or chaplain to meet with you anywhere between 2 – 5 times for pre-marriage counseling prior to your wedding ceremony. **This is in addition to the pre-marriage class.**

Do we need to complete the pre-marital class?

Yes, even for those getting married off-site we still need couples to complete the 9-week pre- marriage class which is offered 2 times a year on Sunday mornings. In addition, we would like for you to complete a wedding application form and complete the pre-marriage counseling with your officiating pastor or Chaplain.

We live out-of-state. How will we complete the pre-marital class?

Each circumstance is different, but the Care Director will work with the couple and Officiating Pastor to coordinate the completion of the course work.

Will we be contacted by anyone else from Elmbrook Church?

Yes, you can expect a wedding assistant to connect with you once you are married so we can get forwarding information and change of address once you are married.