

Trinity Presbyterian Church Wedding Policy

It is the desire of our church to be helpful to Christian couples desiring a church wedding, which is a Christian ceremony uniting one man and one woman in the covenant of marriage. All components of the wedding service should be appropriate for a Christian service and are subject to the approval of the Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church (TPC). Contact Associate Pastor Jimmy Gill at tpcbham@gmail.com with questions about the facilities or application.

Requirements for Couples and Officiants

In accordance with the teaching of God's word on marriage and sexuality, we require that all couples married in our facilities be professing Christians whose lives show evidence of their relationship with Christ. We reserve the right to refuse use of our facilities to any couple not living in accordance with God's design for marriage and sexuality (see our Constitution for further details).

Any non-member couple desiring to be married by one of our pastors must meet for an initial interview before he can agree to perform the ceremony. All couples desiring to be married by one of our pastors must meet with a TPC pastor for premarital counseling, unless other arrangements are agreed upon. A couple desiring that a non-TPC pastor officiate the wedding must receive approval from a TPC pastor. Fees for ministers involved in counseling, officiating, etc. should be paid directly to those involved.

Application, Scheduling, and Facility Fee

For non-members, a non-refundable deposit of \$100 and a completed application form are required before the date is officially entered on the church calendar, with the balance due 30 days prior to the wedding. The church is available to non-members twice a month, up to one year in advance. Only one wedding per day will be scheduled. The non-member facility fee is \$500, including deposit.

With the exception of fees associated with cleanup (\$100), use of paper products, etc., there are no fees for members of TPC, but they must still complete a brief application form to secure a date on the church calendar.

These facility fees do not include fees for ministers, musicians, wedding director, etc. Their fees should be paid directly to them.

Wedding Director

The use of our church wedding director, Rachel Winstead, or her designated substitute is required for all weddings at TPC. Please contact her at rachelwinstead@gmail.com after your wedding is placed on the church calendar to schedule a meeting. Her fee is \$250, which is paid directly to her. The wedding director will meet with the bride initially to go over decoration policies, etc., again one week before the wedding to finalize details, and then to direct the rehearsal and wedding. She will open the church 3 hours prior to the wedding for florists, etc.

Music

All music and musicians must be approved by a TPC pastor and a church musician. TPC musicians are available for wedding ceremonies, and all fees are paid directly to them. Please contact either Joyce Terry at reedjoyceterry@bellsouth.net or Vicki Winstead at vickiwin@gmail.com.

Flowers & Decorations

All decorations must be approved by the wedding director. The use of tape, nails, tacks, and glue are prohibited. Candles must be dripless, and the floor must be protected by a floor covering. Candles may not be placed in the aisles, pews, or windows. All decorations and related equipment must be removed immediately following the ceremony. The cross at the front of the sanctuary cannot be removed or decorated in any way, nor can anything be affixed to the front wall. The banners that hang from the ceiling cannot be removed, but the two banners and stands at the front may be removed if so desired. No rice or sparklers are allowed on church property. Birdseed, real rose petals, or bubbles may be used outside the building.

Regulations for Use of Church Facility

- The facilities must be clean and ready for use following a wedding.
- The applicant must make arrangements to ensure that everything is cleaned up and all furniture is returned to its original location after the ceremony. Furniture rearrangement is included in the facility fee for non-members. Members have the option to pay for this work or to arrange another way for it to be done.
- If any church property, equipment, or furniture is damaged, the person making the reservation will be responsible for the cost of repairs.
- Smoking is not allowed anywhere on TPC property.
- The capacity of the sanctuary is 212 people and should not be exceeded.