Your Wedding and the Church

Congratulations! St. Paul's United Methodist Church extends best wishes to both of you.

The marriage ceremony is a celebration of Christian Family Life, and St. Paul's views the marriage ceremony as a worship service. Consequently, the words of the minister, the lyrics of the music, the actions of the participants, are offered in praise and thanksgiving to God for the love He gives to us all.

Policies and procedures in this pamphlet, and those given personally by the minister, are to enhance our praise to God.

Ceremony Venue Options:

The Sanctuary seats approximately 650 on the lower level and has fifteen rows of pews; the aisle is 55 feet long. A balcony level (not used for weddings) seats 350.

Rickard Chapel seats up to 120 with rows of chairs; the aisle is 40 feet long.

The Prayer Chapel seats ten.

Bride's Room

A well-equipped dressing room, provided for the bride and bridesmaids, is located on the lower level adjacent to a restroom.

Scheduled times

Wedding Times: Saturday weddings are usually 11 a.m., 1 p.m. or 4 p.m. Friday wedding times are negotiable. Two or two and one-half hours are allotted for each wedding; one hour prior to the ceremony, and one to one and one half hours during and after.

Rehearsal Time: Rehearsals are usually 5:30 p.m. the evening before the wedding.

Costs

(To be eligible for the member fee structure you need to be an active member, for at least one year, at the time of scheduling the wedding.)

	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
Minister	Honorarium	$200
Organist	$135	$175
Hostess	$85	$100
Solo Music	(By arrangement with Director of Music)	Varies
Facility Rental		
Main Sanctuary	No Charge	$325
Rickard Chapel	No Charge	$200
Prayer Chapel	No Charge	$50
Custodial		
Main Sanctuary	$70	$85
Rickard Chapel	$50	$60
Prayer Chapel	Donation	$30

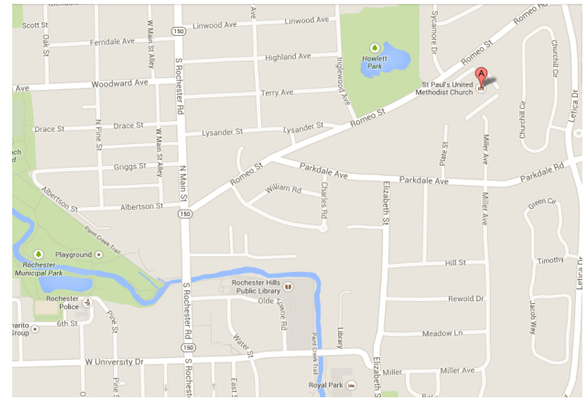
Members may schedule their weddings up to 18 months in advance. Non-members may schedule weddings up to 11 months in advance. A deposit of $100 is required for non-members and is refundable up to 90 days before the wedding date.
The Business Manager must receive the marriage license and payment of all fees for a wedding two weeks prior to the wedding.

Legal Requirements

The State of Michigan requires that you obtain a marriage license ahead of the wedding ceremony date. Please contact the county clerk for details.

Parking Directions

Sanctuary parking is available in the back (south) of the building. The entrance to the Sanctuary is located under the canopy. For weddings in Rickard Chapel, guests should park in the front parking lot and use the office entrance. Additional parking is available on the east side of the building. A map is printed below for the convenience of your guests.



Officiating Ministers
Rev. David Eardley
Rev. Carter M. Grimmett
Rev. Erin Fitzgerald
Rev. Judy May
Rev. Rick Kress

Director of Music - Organist
Dr. Wm. Jean Randall

Associate Director of Music
Shelly Cowling

Hostesses
Jeri Ludlow
Elisabeth Breuhan

Business Manager
Rachel Henry

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
620 Romeo Street
Rochester, Michigan 48307
248-651-9361
stpaulsrochester.org

Your **Wedding**

St. Paul's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rochester, Michigan

Consultations with the Minister

The minister meets with you to explain the wedding service and to prepare you for Christian marriage. At least three one-hour consultations are required. Each minister may vary in their procedure, but these basic matters are discussed:

- The meaning of a Christian marriage;
- Information regarding wedding details, including dates;
- Review of the service and variations.

Note: A nominal fee may be collected if the Pastor decides to uses an online "Prepare & Enrich" Inventory.

Interested couples are to contact the Business Manager, 248-651-9361, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, to discuss scheduling a wedding at St. Paul's UMC.

Only ordained ministers of St. Paul's may conduct the Service of Marriage. Other ordained clergy may be asked to share in the service with the approval, and at the invitation, of the conducting minister. The ritual used is that of the United Methodist Book of Worship.

Director of Music

The Director of Music of St. Paul's, or his/her designated substitute, shall be the organist for all weddings. After the first consultation with the minister, an appointment should be made with the Director of Music.

Music appropriate to a worship celebration in the Lord's home should be selected with approval by both the couple and the Director of Music. Your wedding may be enhanced musically by many of St. Paul's talented musicians. Soloists are available from the church, fee to be determined, or you may select your own with approval of the Director of Music.

Our vocal and handbell choirs are available to augment your celebration. Please contact our Director of Music for information.

Wedding Hostess

The church requires the use of one of our trained wedding hostesses at all weddings, except those which are strictly private (fewer than 10 guests present) and have no rehearsal. No outside wedding coordinator may be used for marriage services at St. Paul's.

Rehearsal

Most weddings are on Saturday. The rehearsal, about one hour, usually takes place the night before the wedding. If a Friday wedding is requested, then rehearsals need to be scheduled with the minister. Please tell the participants to arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time. All members of the wedding party, including the parents of the bride and groom, need to be present to enable the wedding ceremony to proceed as planned. Vocalists and instrumentalists meet at a different time with the Director of Music. The wedding hostess will be present at the rehearsal to give direction and to assist the minister.

Wedding

The bride and her attendants should arrive one hour before the scheduled service time and assemble in the Bride's Room. The groom and best man should arrive 45 minutes beforehand and meet in the Parlor (upper level). Parents and grandparents should arrive at least 30 minutes before the service and contact the church hostess for further directions.

General

Usually the receiving line forms in the Narthex following the ceremony.

Please do not use rice, birdseed, confetti, helium balloons, etc., inside the church building. Birdseed may only be used outside the church.

Smoking is prohibited within the church building.

The Pastor or hostess is required to prohibit any person from participating in either the rehearsal or wedding if found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs or is disruptive. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed in the church building or on the property of the church.

Flowers, Candles and Dress

You are to secure your own florist. Altar flowers may be used to enhance the setting. Please consult with the minister if any unusual floral arrangements are being considered. If desired, an aisle runner should be obtained from the florist.

Rubber bands, ties or plastic clips may be used to secure bows to pews. Tape or adhesive of any kind may not be used because a sticky residue is left which cannot be removed without damage to wood surfaces.

Only two altar candles are lighted. If you desire a Unity Candle Ritual; the bride should obtain a Unity Candle and two tapers that meet the following requirement - should be 8" to 10" in height. Extra candelabra are not used at St. Paul's because of unusual air currents in the Sanctuary.

Dress for the bridal party and guests should be appropriate for a celebration and worship service in a church setting.

Photography

The marriage ceremony is, first and foremost, a worship service and a sacred event. It is important therefore, that any photography not intrude on this service of worship. St. Paul's Church recognizes the value of a photographic record of weddings and in the interest of cooperation has established the following policy:

You must secure your own photographer.

No flash pictures may be taken by anyone (professional or amateur) during the ceremony. The designated photographer may take pictures from the Narthex during the ceremony with a camera without a flash. Cameras making a sound that will detract attention from the ceremony should not be used. Your photographer may take photographs during the processional and recessional from the back of the Sanctuary. Pictures may be posed of portions of the ceremony at the conclusion of the receiving line or after the dismissal.

Delaying the start of the ceremony for photography is not permitted.

Video- recording of the wedding ceremony is permitted from an unattended stationary camera. The placement of the camera shall be approved by the minister prior to the service. Again, to protect against disruption of your service, this needs to be done without additional lighting and with a silent video camera.

Your ushers should notify guests with cameras of our picture policy. Please inform family members of the photography policy in advance to avoid embarrassment or misunderstanding.