

*Planning Your Wedding*  
*at*  
*Saron Lutheran Church*



*United In Christ*

**Planning Reference Guide**

Wedding Date \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

Ceremony Time \_\_\_\_\_

Officiating Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Our pre-marital sessions with the Pastor are scheduled for:

Our meeting with the Wedding Coordinator is scheduled for:

Our meeting with the Organist is scheduled for:

Our Rehearsal is at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
(time) (date)

Our photo session begins at \_\_\_\_\_.

The church will be opened by the Wedding Coordinator at \_\_\_\_\_.

## ***Saron Lutheran Church*** ***Guidelines for Marriage Preparation***

As you prepare for your wedding and married life, it is our joy to assist you in the planning, not only for the wedding ceremony, but also for your married life together. We present this wedding guide to help you in planning a Christian wedding service and in establishing a Christian home.

A Christian wedding is a sacred worship service in which a bridal couple and their families have invited their guests to join them in asking for God's blessing on this marriage. You are encouraged to look at the marriage service, which begins on page 202 in the Lutheran Book of Worship (green hymnal).

It is our hope that the service will be a meaningful and memorable occasion for you and your guests. With the understanding of the sacredness of the ceremony, we want to acquaint you with some of the primary standards and policies of Saron Lutheran Church (SLC) as you make your preparations.

Weddings will be scheduled through the Church Office. Your requested date and time must be confirmed by the pastoral staff.

A member of the Saron pastoral staff officiates at all weddings. Please notify the pastoral staff if you wish to invite additional clergy to participate in the ceremony. The pastoral staff will, then, extend an invitation to the other clergy to participate. Upon occasion, a guest Pastor may be used upon approval of the Saron pastoral staff.

The pastor of Saron will meet with the couple to assist them in understanding married life. The sessions will be scheduled between the bride and groom and the pastor. The pre-marital sessions include:

- Prepare (Wedding Preparation Inventor)
- A review of scripture text which pertains to God's Word and your wedding service. Taking time together in prayer and devotion will help your prepare. Below are listed a few scripture references that may be helpful:

Genesis 1:26-31	Psalms 150	John 15:9-12
Genesis 2:18-24	Song of Solomon 2:10-13	Romans 12:1-2
Psalms 33	Song of Solomon 8:7	1 Corinthians 12, 13
Psalms 100	Isaiah 63:7-9	Ephesians 5:21-33
Psalms 117	Matthew 19:4-6	Phillippians 4:4-7
Psalms 127	Mark 10:2-6	1 John 4:7-12
Psalms 128	Colossians 3	Colossians 1:12
Psalms 136	John 2:1-10	

- Discussion of the gift of marriage and your personalized expression of that gift.
- The discussion and planning of the marriage service itself, including final approval of your music.

Music for your ceremony is to be chosen with care and discrimination. The texts and music should contribute to the worship atmosphere of the service. As you consider music for your wedding a good guideline to ask yourself is if the music would be appropriate at a Sunday Worship Service. There is an abundance of beautiful wedding music in traditional, classical, contemporary and folk styles that reflect this Christian concept. In addition to vocal and instrumental music, consider using a congregational hymn to help make the occasion become a corporate worship in which your guests actively participate. Consultation with the organist and your officiating Pastor will help you with your choices. Appropriate recorded music may be included.

Saron Lutheran Church requires the presence of a Sound System Technician.

The celebration of Communion is offered and encouraged. The Saron Lutheran Church family invites all members of God's family who believe the Words of Institution to the Lord's Table. Children who have not received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Most couples choose to honor family members or special friends by asking them to be Communion Assistants and Acolytes to assist in the Communion Distribution. The Wedding Coordinator and pastoral staff will discuss the number needed for your ceremony. Saron will arrange for Acolytes and Communion Assistants if you do not choose family and/or friends. The appropriate honorariums as listed at the end of this guide will apply. The bread and wine are a gift from the congregation of Saron.

A Wedding Coordinator will be assigned to, and is required, for every bridal party that exceeds 50 guests. The Wedding Coordinator will contact the bridal couple to set up a meeting to review details and needs for your service, coordinate contacts, and schedule a rehearsal prior to the wedding date.

A marriage license must be secured in Minnesota and is regulated by the State. The issuing office is the Clerk of Court in any County Courthouse in Minnesota. There is a five day waiting period, and it can be applied for no more than six (6) months in advance. **The license should be given to the Wedding Coordinator at the time of the rehearsal.**

We strongly suggest that all formal pictures be taken before the wedding ceremony. No pictures will be taken with a flash during the ceremony. Flash pictures may be taken as the wedding party enters and leaves the sanctuary. Video may be taken throughout the ceremony from a stationary, pre-set location and prior consultation with the pastoral staff. **Please alert your photographer and videographer to the above guidelines and encourage your guests to follow this practice also.**

In fairness to all, a tight time schedule will be maintained at both the rehearsal and the service. The doors of the church will be opened 30 minutes prior to the scheduled photo shoot and will be locked within 30 minutes after the service or receiving line concludes.

Consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs is prohibited. If there is evidence of the use of alcohol or illegal drugs during the rehearsal or the wedding, individuals will not be allowed to participate in the wedding service.

No smoking is permitted in the church, including bathrooms and dressing rooms.

Dressing rooms will be assigned to the bridal party the night of rehearsal. Saron will not be held responsible for any lost or missing items on the day of the wedding. Dressing rooms must be cleared prior to the beginning of the ceremony.

Candelabras at the altar area and/or aisles may be used IF candles and flames are enclosed. No other candles, with the exception of the Unity Candle, may be used during the wedding service.

No tacks, nails, staples, or tape are to be used in the hanging of decorations, including pew bows or decorations.

An aisle cloth/runner, if desired, needs to be rented or purchased from your florist or other source. The aisle cloth must be at least 75 feet long.

Banners and other decor used in the sanctuary at the time of your wedding are to remain in place. The seasonal colors of the church will not be changed for any event. You are welcome to use one of the three available wedding banners. Discuss this with the Wedding Coordinator.

**All decorations must be reviewed with the Wedding Coordinator.**

The throwing of rice, confetti or birdseed and the release of balloons is **NOT** allowed on or near the church grounds. The blowing of bubbles is allowed **OUTSIDE ONLY**. Saron is not responsible for any injury or loss that may occur as a result of the blowing or use of bubbles.

Unruly or discourteous behavior will be acted on immediately.

Please feel free to call the Church Office at (763) 263-2209 with any questions or concerns you may have, and they will be happy to assist you and connect you with a Saron Wedding Coordinator.

The Church Office will provide you with an Application and Agreement Governing Use of Church Facilities and Facility Use Terms and Conditions to be signed and returned with your deposit payable to Saron Lutheran Church.

A fee and honorarium chart to cover the cost and the use of our facilities follows.

*Note: Checks for reservation deposit, damage deposit, and/or bulletins are set fees are payable to Saron Lutheran Church. All others are payable as an honorarium to the person or persons providing the service to you.*

*The Wedding Coordinator will review your needs and the applicable fees and honorariums at your meeting. You will then be provided with an envelope which will contain a listing of the applicable fees and honorariums (with a total) and smaller envelopes for the payments.*

*Return this envelope with the checks enclosed to the Wedding Coordinator at your rehearsal for disbursement on your behalf after completion of the wedding.*

## Wedding Fees & Honorariums

The reservation deposit check payable to Saron Lutheran Church must be paid to the Church Office to hold your date. The balance of applicable fees and honorariums are to be placed in the provided envelope and given to the Wedding Coordinator at your rehearsal. The Wedding Coordinator will disburse them upon completion of the wedding. Prices are subject to change at any time prior to a reservation being made.

Deposit made at the time of reservation \$ 35.00  
(This is a non-refundable deposit which is applied to the Prepare Wedding Preparation Inventory.)

Damage Deposit \$ 100.00  
(Separate check made to: Saron Lutheran Church and will be returned on the day of the wedding if there is no damage or excessive clean-up.)

### **- Required Fees -**

Facility	\$ 50.00
Pastoral (Honorarium)	\$ 200.00
Coordinator	\$ 175.00
Sound System Technician	\$ 100.00
Janitorial	\$ 75.00

*(The costs above are required if the wedding exceeds 50 guests.)*

### **Optional services and items provided by Saron Lutheran Church**

Organist \$ 150.00  
(Price includes service, rehearsal and one soloist rehearsal.  
Each additional rehearsal requires \$25.00 added to the above cost.)

Soloist \$ 100.00  
(Up to two songs – additional songs \$20.00.)  
(A list of Saron soloists will be provided, if requested.)

Acolyte \$ 10.00  
Assisting Minister \$ 15.00

### Rental Fees for other halls:

Founder's Hall	\$ 100.00
Luther Hall	\$ 100.00
Kitchen	\$ 100.00

\*\*Janitor fee for EACH room is \$ 50.00

Please note: If there is a hardship with the financial listings . . . please speak with our pastoral staff. It is our intent hat weddings at Saron be an open opportunity to all.

(December 2006)

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