

*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 136	John 2:1-10
Genesis 2:18-24	Psalms 150	John 15:9-12
Psalms 33	Song of Solomon 2:10-13	Romans 12:1-2
Psalms 100	Song of Solomon 8:7	Ephesians 5:21-33

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Psalm 117	Isaiah 63:7-9	Phillippians 4:4-7
Psalm 127	Matthew 19:4-6	1 John 4:7-12
Psalm 128	Mark 10:2-6	

- 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.**
 - You may require the usage of a Sound System Technician. Determining factors are the amount and placement of recorded music for your ceremony as well as microphone needs, etc. The Wedding Coordinator will discuss this with you.

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. If you choose to incorporate the Unity Candle, it may be purchased from the church, if needed.

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.

Saron Lutheran Church is not responsible for any injuries or loss that may occur on the premises.

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, bulletins and/or Unity Candle 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.

Reservation deposit \$ 35.00 <i>This is a non-refundable deposit, but will be applied to the Prepare Wedding Preparation Inventory.</i>	Damage deposit \$ 100.00 <i>Separate check made to Saron Lutheran Church which will be returned after the wedding if there is no damage or excessive clean-up.</i>
Members	Non-Members
Facility fee \$ 0.00	Facility fee \$ 100.00
Pastoral \$ 125.00	Pastoral \$ 150.00
Coordinator * \$ 100.00	Coordinator * \$ 125.00
Janitorial * \$ 50.00	Janitorial * \$ 70.00
Optional Services	Optional Services
Organist ? \$ 100.00	Organist ? \$ 125.00
Soloist from Saron + \$ 60.00	Soloist from Saron + \$ 80.00
Sound System Technician \$ 60.00	Sound System Technician \$ 80.00
Acolyte \$ 10.00	Acolyte \$ 10.00
Communion Assistant \$ 15.00	Communion Assistant \$ 15.00
Bulletin fee - based on quantity Up to 50 - \$25.00; 100 - \$40.00; 200 - \$55.00; 250 - \$70.00	Bulletin fee - based on quantity Up to 50 - \$25.00; 100 - \$40.00; 200 - \$55.00; 250 - \$70.00
Unity Candle and tapers \$ 55.00	Unity Candle and tapers \$ 55.00
Luther Hall rental fee \$ 0.00	Luther Hall rental fee ? \$ 200.00
Founders Hall rental fee? \$ 0.00	Founders Hall rental fee ? \$ 200.00
Kitchen rental fee \$ 0.00	Kitchen rental fee \$ 200.00
Required janitorial fee for each room rented \$ 50.00	Required janitorial fee for each room rented 50.00

* *required expense if the wedding exceeds 50 guests*

? *price includes service, rehearsal and one soloist rehearsal. Additional rehearsals require an extra \$25.00*

+ *price includes up to 2 songs; additional songs are \$20.00*

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- Membership is defined as persons who have declared and maintain their membership in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and its bylaws.

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