

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, INC

11109 Poole Road, Wendell, NC, 27591
www.centralwendell.org

WEDDING POLICIES

A Christian wedding is a sacred occasion in which you reaffirm your relationship to God and through Him pledge your love to each other. To be meaningful and memorable to you, your friends and families, careful concern and planning are necessary as you come before God to take your vow that will link you together in life. We at Central Baptist Church want your wedding to be a time of genuine worship.

We believe that making Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior is the most important decision that you can make. Another very important decision is choosing the one with whom you will spend the rest of your life in the sacred covenant of marriage. Therefore, we believe the following are necessary in order to have your wedding at Central Baptist Church facilities:

1. BOTH BRIDE (one biological woman) AND GROOM (one biological man) ARE CHRISTIANS

Believing that the Bible teaches that marriage is only between one biological man and one biological woman, we disapprove of any form of marriage or union outside these boundaries. Our pastors will not officiate nor will our facilities be used for any ceremony outside of one biological man and one biological woman.

Believing also that Christians are to marry only Christians, we require that both bride and groom individually come to an understanding and acceptance of Christ's sacrificial death.
(2 Corinthians 6:14-16; Romans 10:9-10)

2. SEXUAL PURITY

Believing that the sexual relationship has been designed and intended for biblical marriage, we ask that you agree to abstain from any sexual relationship until after the wedding. Furthermore, believing that living arrangements that include cohabitation prior to the wedding is a compromise of your Christian witness, we ask that you agree to separate living arrangements until the wedding.
(1 Timothy 4:12)

3. LOCAL CHURCH FAITHFULNESS

Believing that the Church is God's place to grow strong marriages, we ask that you find a place of involvement in a local church and pursue a lifestyle of faithfulness. (Hebrews 10:19-25)

4. MEMBERS OF CENTRAL BAPTIST

Either the bride or groom or his or her parents must be a member of Central Baptist Church for at least 3 months prior to the wedding date.

5. MEETING WITH A CENTRAL BAPTIST PASTOR

The bride and groom must have at least one premarital counseling session (preferred 4-6) with one of the Central Baptist Pastors even if he does not officiate the wedding. If a minister will be officiating the wedding who is not on staff at Central Baptist Church, he must be approved by the Lead Pastor of Central Baptist Church .

6. SETTING THE DATE

The date must be cleared with the church office. **No wedding date will be put on the calendar until the bride and groom have met with a Central Baptist Church pastor and he has approved the use of Central's facilities.** A wedding cannot be scheduled that interferes with a church program. A wedding cannot be scheduled on Sunday. There will be only one wedding on any given day. Reservations may be made up to 12 months in advance.

A church custodian will be assigned to the wedding/reception. The custodian is to be contacted for any building needs. The custodian is responsible for opening and closing of the building, and the cleaning.

7. FOOD

There should be no food or drinks anywhere except the kitchen, reception area, or dressing areas. Food and WATER ONLY in the dressing areas.

8. CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Office hours: M-TH: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

9. MUSIC

The purpose of music in a church wedding is to glorify God; therefore, the wedding music must be appropriate for use in a church. Pastors have the right to disapprove any music. All musicians will be obtained by the wedding party.

Receptions at Central may not include dances (Exception: Bride/Groom, Father/Daughter and or Mother/Son).

Music rehearsals should be scheduled before the wedding rehearsal. They should conclude prior to the time of the actual wedding rehearsal.

10. DOORS OPEN

For rehearsal the building will be unlocked 30 minutes before scheduled time. For the wedding, the building will be unlocked two (2) hours before scheduled time. Any other time, including times for the florist, caterer, musicians, and photographer, must be cleared with church administrator/pastor.

11. DECORATIONS

All candles used should be dripleless. (They can be labeled dripleless and still produce wax. Please be alert.) No candles should be placed directly under the microphones in the choir area. Standard candle lighters should be used to light and extinguish all candles. All items must be removed immediately after the ceremony/photography.

13. SOUND VIDEO PROJECTION / POWERPOINT / LIGHTING

The sound/video team will be responsible for operating all sound/video/lighting equipment. **NO ONE** other than church assigned personnel will operate this equipment. The bride/groom or wedding director will need to contact the **Church Audio/Visual Director** to enlist his/her ministry team's services. This may require an additional fee or honorarium. See section 27 for fees schedule.

14. CONDUCT

No loud or inappropriate language will be tolerated. The church campus is a smoke-free campus. No alcohol products or illegal drugs are allowed on church property. No person is permitted to come to any of the wedding activities at the church under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

17. DRESSING AREAS

The bridal party will dress in the assigned rooms.

18. PERSONAL ITEMS

Personal items should not be left lying around. The church is not responsible for personal items such as wedding dresses, tuxedos, purses, jewelry, or any other belongings.

19. RECEPTION/REHEARSAL DINNER

- There can be a reception or a rehearsal dinner in the Fellowship Hall or Worship/Rec Center.
- See guidelines for use of facilities for more details.
- The kitchen can be used for food preparation and layout.
- The caterer or family will be responsible for cleaning the area they work in.

20. FACILITIES

Please do not move or remove furniture, equipment, instruments, etc without approval.

21. RICE, BIRD SEED, CONFETTI, ETC.

There should be no rice, bird seed, confetti, etc. used. Only silk flower petals may be used in the aisle.

22. PHOTOGRAPHY

All photography should be handled in a dignified and unobtrusive way. There should be no flash pictures during the ceremony. No one should stand on the pews or furniture. All photos taken after the ceremony must be taken within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the ceremony.

23. DRESS

The formality of your wedding is a decision of the bride and groom. All clothing worn by the bridal party in the ceremony should be modest and in keeping with this sacred occasion. Dress for the rehearsal and coming to and from the wedding should be in good taste for the Lord's house.

24. PUNCTUALITY

Rehearsals must begin at the scheduled time and last no longer than 1½ hour.

25. WEDDING CONSULTANT/ DIRECTOR

Each wedding party should have a wedding director/consultant at the rehearsal and the wedding. The name of this person should be given to and approved by the pastor that is conducting the ceremony. If there is a guest minister, this information should be given to the pastor who did the initial counseling.

26. CONSIDERATIONS

- (1) Remember the church has to do its work before, during, and after your wedding.
- (2) Weddings in this church are considered a sacred service as well as a legal ceremony. This fact should govern all wedding plans, the selection of music, and the nature of both the wedding and reception.
- (3) The desires of the bride are considered in making plans for the wedding, but the pastor's discretion is observed in weddings held in this church. This remains true even when the service of a wedding consultant is engaged.

27. WEDDING FEES

(1) BUILDING SUPERVISOR / CUSTODIAL

➤ **Chapel (covers custodial services and opening and closing of buildings)**

\$150.00 Rehearsal & wedding

➤ **WRC (covers custodial services and opening and closing of buildings)**

\$250.00 Rehearsal and wedding
\$250.00 Rehearsal dinner
\$250.00 Reception

➤ **Fellowship Hall (covers custodial services and opening and closing of buildings)**

\$150.00 Rehearsal dinner
\$150.00 Reception

(2) SOUND/LIGHTING/VIDEO

\$150.00 - This fee provides a technician for the operation of the sound/video/light system during the rehearsal and wedding. All music for the wedding should be placed onto a CD in the order of the service. In the event that a technician is needed for an on-campus reception an additional \$25 per hour is required.

(3) MUSICIANS

The church does not provide any musicians. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to reimburse the musicians for their time. The church does not provide any instruments. The wedding party should check with a Worship Pastor regarding the use of instruments other than the piano.

(4) MINISTERS

Ministers do not charge for officiating at a wedding; however, it is the custom for the groom to give the minister a monetary gift. Consideration should be given to the amount of time the pastor devotes to counseling, preparation, rehearsal and ceremony.

All fees (except musicians and ministers) should be paid to Central Baptist Church two (2) weeks prior to date of wedding.

Extra fees will be required for special requests.

We agree and will abide by all the above Central Baptist Church Wedding Policies:

Bride

Date

Groom

Date