

YOUR CHURCH

# WEDDING



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

127 Cherry Rd. NE Massillon, OH 44646

Phone: (330)832-7409



Rev. Mark Kreemer, Pastor

revmkreemer@gmail.com

Chad Pittman, Organist

chadpit@msn.com

We rejoice that God has brought you together. We give thanks for all those people whose love and support has helped bring you to this day. We pray God's blessing for your wedding day and your marriage.

**The Service**—Wedding Services are designed to give God thanks for the joy that fills our hearts and to celebrate the couple being married. There is a traditional order of worship complete with procession, scripture readings, message and exchanging of vows/rings. Many couples are now also choosing to add the celebration of Holy Communion to their wedding. A schedule of times and decision concerning communion needs confirmed to the church office **(1) month prior to the wedding day.** Ushers are responsible for extinguishing all candles and for closing all doors to the sanctuary.

**Music**—Contact our Organist Chad Pittman at (330)832-7409 or [chadpit@msn.com](mailto:chadpit@msn.com). Chad will help you review and select **appropriate music.** If he/she is not available, they can offer suggestions for an alternative organist/pianist. Music at a wedding is intended to glorify God. Special music by soloists or instrumentalists in addition to what the organist will provide is completely acceptable. Occasionally, a couple will ask that a hymn be sung by the congregation. This too, is encouraged. **Pre-recorded music is not permitted.** All Wedding Music will be reviewed with final approval for performance decided by St. Paul's Organist/Pastor Chad Pittman. Music outside of the organ repertoire and in collaboration with a soloist or ensemble must be provided and paid for by the Wedding Party. A \$50.00 Bench Fee will be charged for a guest organist/pianist. The Organist Fee on pages 7

and 9 includes a rehearsal with the Wedding Party if requested.

**Counseling**—The Pastor requires pre-marriage conversations with the couple. **Contact Pastor Kreemer at (330)832-7409 to set up your counseling.**

**Unity Candle**—This candle symbolizes the oneness of marriage. A Unity Sand ceremony is also acceptable.

**Wedding Bulletin**—The office staff will prepare a bulletin for you with the worship order and the names of the participants. The bulletin will be prepared in a timely fashion and can be proofread by either the bride or the groom.

**Contact St. Paul's office Mon-Fri 9am – 1pm 330)832-7409 to coordinate.**

You may also choose to do your own bulletins. Please coordinate with the Pastor as it pertains to how the order for Worship is laid out.

**Readings**—The reading of holy scripture is a part of all weddings at St. Paul's, though a poem or another reading which illuminates the love of Christ for his people may also be appropriate.

**Pictures and Video Cameras**—Couples may have use of the sanctuary to take pictures before and after the wedding. The official wedding photographer may take as many pictures during the processional (entrance) and recessional (exit) as they would like. The photographer may then stand in a stationary position in the balcony or the choir loft to take non-flash pictures during the wedding. Most professional photographers do re-creations or

reenactments of the ceremony highlights after the worship service is over. Videographers may stand in the balcony or in the choir loft as long as their camera remains stationary. Flash pictures are permitted by the wedding attendees only at the time of the processional and the recessional. There are reasons **for the** rules. First, the wedding celebration is not a show, but a worship service. Second, when photographs are continually taken during a ceremony, it distracts and takes attention away from the couple and the wedding that was so carefully planned.

**Wedding Coordinator**—The Wedding Coordinator will answer questions concerning your wedding and church policies as you plan your wedding. She will be present at the rehearsal and will assist with gathering all the participants in the proper places, at the proper time and assist with any issues that may arise. She will also be at the church the day of the wedding to assist as needed, and to make certain everyone is ready—in the proper place at the proper time.

**Rehearsal**—95% of all weddings require a rehearsal, usually taking place the night before the wedding. We ask that all participants arrive 10 minutes prior to the rehearsal so we can begin the rehearsal on schedule.

**Flowers**—Flowers may remain for Sunday Worship.

**Aisle Runner**—The aisle is 100 feet long. A runner may be used though few couples choose to cover the beautiful sanctuary tile.

**Aisle Candles**—Will be provided upon request by St. Paul's. See Schedule of Fees.

**Dressing**—Women and Men in the bridal party have separate designated rooms they may use before the wedding service. We ask that you clean up thoroughly, leaving the rooms as you find them. The dressing room needs to be attended or locked during the service.

**Use of the Building**—The building will be open preceding the wedding by the custodial staff in sufficient time for you to dress, decorate and prepare.

**Receptions**—You may choose to use the facilities of St. Paul's for a reception. If you are interested in doing so, please contact our Communications Coordinator, Sharon Thieret, between 9:00am-1:00p.m. Monday—Friday. She can talk to you about what is available and the accompanying fees. Sharon is also very helpful in responding to any other wedding questions you may have. Decorations are welcome—although no glitter, tape, tacks or nails are permitted.

**Hax Chapel**—For weddings of fewer than 30 people, many couples use this small chapel located within the setting of the larger sanctuary.

Couples to be married are expected to be active participants in a Christian congregation.

Weddings are normally scheduled at least 6 months prior to the wedding.

The couple shall be responsible to attend the pre-marital sessions described in the body of this document and will be responsible for all fees associated with the wedding.

**A refundable deposit of \$100 is required at the time the wedding is scheduled.** This fee must be paid in order to secure the date you have requested. No refunds issued for cancellations less than two weeks before scheduled wedding date. Complete payment is due 28 days prior to wedding date.

St. Paul's is a no smoking facility. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited with the exception of a champagne toast to the bride and groom if our facility is being utilized for the reception.

A Pastor of St. Paul's is required to be present and to preside at all weddings. Other ordained Pastors are welcome to participate upon approval of a Pastor of St. Paul's.

**License/Fees/Bulletin Information**—The Church office needs the names of two witnesses to the wedding, full payment of fees, and all information for the wedding bulletin (4) weeks prior to the wedding.



## Wedding Fees and Costs for 2023 –2024

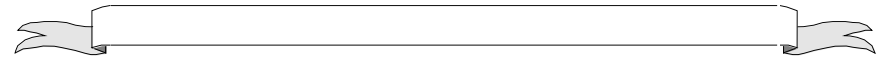
Option	Fee
Building Use (Includes use of Sanctuary and dressing rooms for bridal party)	Suggested Donation \$500
Pastor	\$275
Organist	\$150/rehearsal \$75
Rehearsal with Soloist	\$35 per 1/2 hour
Sound System*	\$75
Custodian*	\$175
Wedding Coordinator*	\$150
Eighteen Aisle Candles**	\$50

No weddings are permitted the week during Holy week. Contact the office for exact dates and availability. Other times may not be available due to the pastor’s other obligations to the Synod, vacation or church functions.

\*Wedding Coordinator Lynda Klein will assist couples in planning their special day. Contact Lynda at 330.837.3705.

\*\*All candles will be furnished by St. Paul's. (This is a fire hazard precaution.)

If you would like another unity ceremony, such as sand, please consult with the pastor.



### My Records

Pastor	\$ _____
Organist	\$ _____
Aisle Candles	\$ _____
Rehearsal with Soloist	\$ _____
Custodian	\$ _____
Sound System	\$ _____
Wedding Coordinator	\$ _____
Building Use	\$ _____
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
Less Deposit	\$ _____
<b>Balance Due</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
Payment Amount and Date	\$ _____
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
Payment Amount and Date	\$ _____
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
<b>Payment in full 28 days prior to wedding</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

