

The pastors of Trinity Lutheran Church are eager for your wedding to be a beautiful and happy occasion. The Christian wedding ceremony is first and foremost a service of worship to our Lord. The information, which follows, will help you as you plan for your wedding at Trinity.

AS YOU SET THE DATE

Check with the church office to make sure the Pastor and the church are available on the date you have selected. Weddings at Trinity are ordinarily performed by one of our Pastors. Other Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod clergy may participate after consultation and at the invitation of the Pastor.

After your wedding has been scheduled, one of our pastors will be assigned to assist you in your wedding plans. Please note that the pastor you first contacted may not be the pastor who performs your ceremony due to scheduling conflicts. Active church attendance is required of couples before a wedding date may be set for them at Trinity.

MARRIAGE IS AN HONORABLE ESTATE

If you are living together or have become sexually active we ask that you consider your actions in light of the Sixth Commandment. Sexual relations outside the mutual consent of marriage are offensive to God and His Church. We pray that God would lead you to confess this sin, receive His forgiveness and seek to change your lives. If you have established a home or family together we encourage you to have your marriage recognized by the state of Iowa and blessed by Church as soon as possible.

PREMARITAL COUNSELING

It is advisable that a couple consider all the challenges of marriage before entering into the blessed state of marriage. This is why your Pastor will require premarital counseling prior to marriage at Trinity. Take seriously this opportunity to speak with your Pastor about some of the important matters about to take place in your lives – he is there to help you in your future plans. Plan to schedule at least four to six conferences with him. We utilize “Prepare/Enrich” materials (\$35 fee is payable online).

THE LICENSE

The license must be in the possession of the Pastor before the wedding can take place. Please bring the license to the church office by the Monday prior to your wedding.

INVITATIONS

When ordering wedding invitations, the church address is: 520 North Garfield Street Algona, Iowa 50511. When sending out invitations, please remember that our church can seat approximately 400 people.

THE REHEARSAL

The wedding rehearsal will ordinarily be held on the evening prior to the wedding, unless other arrangements are made with the Pastor. The time for the rehearsal will be determined according to the Pastor's schedule. Allow approximately one hour for the rehearsal. **All members of the wedding party will present themselves with manner and dress befitting the honor due the house of God.**

DECORATIONS

Decorations may be used in the church and the Trinity Life Center for both the wedding and any reception or dinner. It is preferable that these be as simple as possible. We believe our church is beautiful by itself. Flowers, ribbon bows, white aisle runner, and unity candle are all acceptable. Adhesive tape is not allowed on any painted or wooden surfaces. Command strips may be used. Check with the Pastor to see what is appropriate.

MUSIC

The wedding service is first and foremost a worship service. **Before selecting any music for your wedding, speak with the Pastor about what is suitable music for a Christian wedding.** Some music is not appropriate for use in a Christian wedding even though it may often be associated with weddings on TV, in movies, or in other than Christian weddings. Your Pastor is ready to advise you in what music is suitable for a Christian wedding. The basic rule is this: **The music should honor Jesus Christ as Savior, or God as the Author and Head of Marriage.** The music should also display a proper Christian attitude towards the marriage relationship. All music for weddings at Trinity must meet with the approval of the Pastor. Therefore, we require that you bring the music and words to the Pastor well in advance (at least three weeks) of the wedding so that this approval may be granted.

If you would like one of our organists to play for your wedding, they need to be contacted as soon as possible. The church office can help you do this.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Many pictures may easily be posed before the service (unity candle, soloists, ring ceremony, etc.). Group pictures of the wedding party can be taken before or after the wedding service, however, it should be noted that pictures taken after the wedding may cause undue waiting for your wedding guests.

CLEANING UP

You are asked to assign people to remove all trash and decorations (unity candles, wedding bulletins, etc) in the church and check for personal items in dressing rooms immediately following the service. Please inform the Pastor the night of rehearsal who you have assigned to this task.

General Fees to consider

You need to compensate the organist, pianist, or soloist for their services at your wedding. Compensation should be agreed upon before the wedding and paid the evening of the rehearsal.

Organist (paid directly to organist)	\$100-150
Custodian (paid directly to custodian)	\$25.00
Bulletins	approx. \$10.00 per 100
Aisle Candles	\$25.00

WEDDING RECEPTIONS & REHEARSAL DINNERS

These functions may be held in the Trinity Life Center. The following is a general fee schedule for events being held there. Please contact the church office for more detailed information.

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Profit</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
TLC-No Alcohol	\$ 100	\$ 150	\$ 200
With wine/beer	\$ 150	\$ 200	\$ 250

In addition to above:

Kitchen-light use	\$ 25	\$ 65	\$ 75
Kitchen-heavy use	\$ 50	\$ 125	\$ 150

A deposit equal to the amount of the fee is **required at the time of reservation** (with completed request form). The rental fee is due to Trinity Lutheran Church by ten (10) days prior to the event.

Please check with the church office for any updates to the fee schedule. To schedule your reception and receive a complete set of rules and regulations for use of the Life Center, please contact the church office at 295-3518.

The Life Center also has several items which may be used for a special occasion with a small rental fee as follows:

Gold Chargers (304)	\$ 25.00
Dance floor	\$100.00
8" Rose Bowls (42) used separately	\$15.00
12" Beveled Mirrors (42) used separately	\$15.00
If bowls & mirrors are used together	\$25.00
Round White Tablecloths (33) and/or Rectangle White Tablecloths (6)	\$1.00 each (fee includes laundering & use)
Tableskirts:	
4 sided (4), 3sided (4), round (2)	\$5.00 each

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Wedding Service Policies and Information



Trinity Lutheran Church
Algona, Iowa