

***“Have you not read
that he who created
them from the
beginning made them
male and female,***

***⁵ and said, ‘Therefore
a man shall leave his
father and his mother
and hold fast to his
wife, and the two shall
become one flesh’?***

***⁶ So they are no longer
two but one flesh.
What therefore God
has joined together,
let not man separate.”***

***- Matthew 19:4-6
(ESV)***



Grace Community Church
140 Main Street
P.O. Box 147
Grantsville, MD 21536

Phone: 301-895-5256
Pastor's Cell: 717-496-3879
E-mail: pastormatt@grantsvillechurch.com

Pursuing Marriage



Pursuing Marriage @ Our Church

Congratulations!!!

If you are reading this you've probably just gotten engaged or are discerning the call to get married in the near future...for that we are excited for and are praying for you!

Contained in this little brochure is the first step (except for perhaps popping the question) in preparation for your wedding day.

Please review the details and the outline of expectations in the next few panels to help you make an informed decision as to whether or not our church and/or our pastor would make a good fit to unite you and your fiancée in marriage before the Lord.

If you have any questions (and we're confident you will have tons) please contact the pastor at your convenience.

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Expectations we have of you when you consider asking us to host or officiate your wedding...

1. You are committed to worshipping and serving Christ within the life of the church.

We trust you both are committed to living under the authority of Jesus Christ as committed Christ followers. We also expect that you will view and respect the pastor as your leader, guide and principal organizer of your wedding ceremony. If you desire a "quick" marriage ceremony or one that will not be remembered as Christ centered... perhaps it would be best if you look elsewhere. Please note: we do not permit same sex ceremonies on our property and our pastor will not officiate them on scriptural grounds.

2. You are agreeable to attending no less than 4 one hour long marriage preparation classes and attending a weekend Marriage Conference.

We are committed to preparing you for a lifetime of commitment with no less than 4 hours of preparation with our pastor. These 4 one hour classes are designed to review and discuss your fitness for marriage. These classes will also prepare you for and review the material learned during "A Weekend to Remember" Marriage Conference that you choose to attend. We consider these classes with our pastor and attending a conference essential work for your long term success and are therefore not optional. It is expected that separate sleeping accommodations will be made while attending the conference. Additional opportunities to meet with the pastor may be scheduled as needed to plan the ceremony, music, facility use, etc... For more information about the conference requirement please contact the pastor.

3. You view your wedding ceremony as a celebration of what God has done and will do in your marriage.

We expect you both will be hands on in the planning of the ceremony in a way that will honor the Christian faith and the lifelong commitment you will be making before your friends, family and God.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: We won't have time to do the classes and attend the weekend conference before our big day... can we do part of these things afterwards?

A: Unfortunately our answer is... No.

Q: My fiancée and I are living together already will the be a problem for the pastor or the church?

A: Yes, although we are sympathetic to a variety of circumstances, in light of all that scripture teaches about marriage, it's not a good witness for our church or our pastor to support such circumstances. If you are willing to separate yourselves from now up until the wedding please contact our pastor to determine if you will be eligible to proceed.

Q: Can we have another pastor officiate our wedding in your church building?

A: No.

Q: Can we use secular music in our ceremony?

A: Generally...No, however exceptions can be made for appropriate reasons which do not alter the gospel centered theme of the wedding.

Q: Can we bring in outside musicians to play the organ or piano?

A: Yes, with the approval of our organist.

Q: Must one or both of us be active members of your church to get married by your pastor or at your church?

At least one person must be an active member and the other person must be eligible and be seeking to join the church as an active member.

Q: What is the cost of the marriage conference?

Budget at least \$600 for meals, hotel and conference registration. The church is willing to help defray the cost of the conference for eligible couples. Please see the pastor to discuss your situation.