

Weddings at Orchard Park Presbyterian Church

Congratulations on your engagement! This is a busy and exciting time in your relationship. The wedding ceremony itself is a celebration of worship before God, your family and friends. It's the beginning of a unified and growing expression of Christian faith together. At Orchard Park Presbyterian Church, we rejoice in Christian marriage, which is given by God, blessed by our Lord Jesus Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit. We believe that all parts of the wedding day, ceremony and the preparations for it are important. We want to help you make this a meaningful and special day.

What is required to be married at Orchard Park?

- A completed *Wedding Application*
- A non-refundable deposit (applied to final balance) of \$50 for members and \$150 for nonmembers
- Premarital counseling with the officiating pastor
- A meeting with our Director of Music
- A meeting with the Wedding Coordinator
- Final payment two weeks prior to your wedding date

Where can the wedding ceremony be held?

Weddings may be held either in the sanctuary or the North Chapel. Your choice will depend upon the size of your guest list, wedding party and personal desires. The sanctuary seats 300 guests comfortably, and the North Chapel can seat 50 to 75 guests.

Who can serve as an officiating minister?

All weddings at Orchard Park Presbyterian Church are performed by a pastor on staff. However, with the prior approval and an invitation from one of our pastors, a visiting minister may perform or assist in the ceremony.

Does the church require premarital counseling?

Yes, couples are required to have three premarital counseling sessions with the pastor officiating the wedding. For those who do not live in the area, we can make arrangements for a single, extended session.

What type of music may we have at our wedding?

We ask that your music be sacred in nature since the ceremony is a worship service. After your wedding is scheduled with the church, please make an appointment to meet with our Director of Music. The Director of Music will guide you in your choices of music, including style choices.

Will someone from the church help us the day of our wedding?

Orchard Park provides a wedding coordinator as a gift to you. After your application has been approved by Session, our coordinator will meet with you, walk you through the space, and help coordinate flower delivery, candles and decor set-up. The coordinator will be present during the rehearsal and ceremony to assist with the processional and recessional, and confer with photographers and ushers. The coordinator will also help make sure that room arrangements are in place for the wedding.

Is there anything we should know about photography during the wedding?

Because a wedding is a worship service, photography should not interfere with the solemnity of the occasion. Once the ceremony begins, we ask that photos and videos be taken from the back of the church. If the ceremony is in the sanctuary, the balcony is available also. Please refrain from using flash photography during the ceremony.

Do we have a rehearsal?

The wedding rehearsal is usually held on the day before the wedding and is conducted by the officiating pastor. The purpose of the rehearsal is to familiarize each participant with his or her part in the ceremony. The rehearsal lasts about an hour.

May we have decorations for the wedding?

Yes, you certainly may decorate the sanctuary or chapel. The paraments, or table coverings, in the sanctuary will be white for the ceremony. We also have two beautiful wedding banners that can be used in the sanctuary. The church has two seven-branch oil candelabras and twelve aisle oil candelabras that you are welcome to use as well. Please leave any liturgical decorations in place. If you wish to add additional decorations, you can do so either at the time of the wedding rehearsal or a couple of hours before the wedding. If you want to have your guests “shower” you as you leave the church, please choose either birdseed or bubbles over rice.

Are there dressing rooms available for us to use?

The bride’s room is our Music Room, located in the hallway near the North Chapel. The room is quite large and has a private bathroom. The groom’s room is our Senior High room, located upstairs. Couches and pool table are in the room for comfort and entertainment. The bathrooms are located across the hall.

May we have our reception at Orchard Park?

We have two rooms that can be used for a reception. The Stewart Pavilion is a large recreation area that can seat approximately 300 guests. The lounge, located just off the sanctuary, is a much smaller room and can seat 50 to 75 guests. We have round tables and chairs available for use as well as table service. Orchard Park’s property guidelines and fees for the use of either room are available upon request.

Who is responsible for the Marriage License?

Please bring your marriage license to the rehearsal. For your information, Indiana Residents must obtain a license in the county in which at least one of them resides. This will allow you to be married anywhere in the State of Indiana. Out of state residents must obtain a marriage license in the county in which the marriage will be performed. Both applicants must apply for their license in person at the same time.

What are the fees and honoraria at Orchard Park?

For members:

- No charge for the use of the Sanctuary or North Chapel
- \$250 Officiant suggested honorarium
- \$135 Premarital counseling and materials
- \$250 Music Director fee
- \$50 Audio Technician fee, if used
- \$50 Custodial fee

For nonmembers:

- \$500 Sanctuary Wedding
- \$250 North Chapel Wedding
- \$250 Officiant suggested honorarium
- \$135 Premarital counseling and materials
- \$250 Music Director fee
- \$50 Audio Technician fee, if used
- \$50 Custodial fee