The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection West is pleased and honored to offer the Wedding Ministry for the very special occasion of holy marriage. Weddings are available for both our members and visitors to the congregation. The wedding ceremony is a worship service where the bride and groom pledge themselves to one another in the presence of God and begin their marriage with Christ as the foundation. The following policies and procedures have been formulated to help your wedding go as smoothly as possible.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE AT RESURRECTION**

- Worship attendance is required of non-members to enable an understanding of our denomination and our church.
- Completion of the Premarital and Newlywed Class.
- Meeting(s) with assigned pastor prior to the ceremony.
- Presentation of properly executed marriage license at the rehearsal. If you are marrying in Kansas, the license must be issued in Kansas. Likewise, if your venue is in Missouri, the license must be issued in Missouri.
- A waiting period of at least six months following a divorce or death of a spouse shall be observed to allow for healing following the end of a previous marriage.
- The church grounds are alcohol-free and the buildings are alcohol and smoke-free. If alcohol is present on the premises, the officiating pastor reserves the authority to cancel the service.

**SCHEDULING THE WEDDING**

Please contact our campus pastor, Jason Gant, as soon as possible regarding the date you wish to schedule. He will mark your date with a tentative notation. This may be done for members up to 12 months prior to the wedding. Non-members are welcome and may reserve their wedding date up to 9 months in advance. The Program Director will confirm wedding dates only after the non-refundable scheduling fee has been received. Non-members are welcome and may reserve their wedding date up to 12 months in advance. The Program Director will confirm wedding dates only after the non-refundable scheduling fee has been received.

**THE VENUE**

Resurrection West has seating for up to 350 guests in the sanctuary. Weddings can be scheduled on Friday evenings or on Saturdays. Rehearsals are usually scheduled on the evening before the wedding and typically last one hour.

**THE PASTOR**

Our campus pastor, Jason Gant will officiate at weddings at his campus venue. Guest pastors are welcome to assist with the approval of the campus pastor.

The pastor expects to spend three sessions in conference with a couple planning to be married here. It is his responsibility as a pastor to function in this capacity as a counselor. This will include discussions of both the service and the marriage itself. The couple must contact the pastor’s administrative assistant, Debbie Dietz, to schedule these sessions.

Communion is not offered at a Resurrection wedding but the couple may share the marriage cup. Please discuss with the pastor.

continued
PREMARITAL AND NEWLYWED PREPARATION CLASS

The Church of the Resurrection offers a required five-week premarital course prior to being married here. There are several courses scheduled throughout the year. Topics include communication, conflict and resolution, financial management and experiencing God, among others. Please contact the Wedding Program Director for more information.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

The Wedding Coordinator represents the church in coordinating the many details of the wedding and rehearsal within the church. Her responsibilities include: ensuring the wedding venue is ready for the rehearsal and wedding, unlocking rooms for the wedding party, coordinating audio set-up, arranging guest book podium and gift table, assisting pastor with rehearsal, orchestrating processional and recessional, monitoring time schedules related to the ceremony, ensuring the church is cleaned after the wedding, and overseeing any other facilitation needs within the church.

When the wedding date has been confirmed and placed on the wedding schedule by the Wedding Program Director, a Wedding Coordinator will be assigned (approximately three months prior to the wedding date). All inquiries after this point should be made directly to the Wedding Coordinator. She will assist with rehearsal and will be at the church during the designated times listed in the paragraph entitled Scheduling Your Wedding.

THE DRESSING ROOMS

The bride and her party may dress at Resurrection West in a designated area. Customarily, the groom’s party dresses away from the church. It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to arrange for the care of the property of the wedding party before, during and after the wedding, as well as the removal of such items immediately following the service. The church will not be responsible for any articles belonging to any person in the bridal party, any guest at the wedding or any vendor serving the wedding.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

The pastor can only perform weddings in full accordance with the law. Please do not overlook the necessity for careful compliance. The wedding cannot take place without a marriage license. The license is to be given to the Pastor or the Wedding Coordinator at the rehearsal.

If you are marrying in Kansas, the license must be issued in Kansas. Likewise, if your venue is in Missouri, the license must be issued in Missouri.

WEDDING MUSIC

The wedding is a service of worship. All music played or sung during the wedding should express a Christian message appropriate to the occasion.

Lindsay Hefner can coordinate music for your wedding. She can recommend selections and also musicians. Fees for these services will be negotiated privately.

The couple is responsible for the purchase of any music not currently found in the church’s music library.

WEDDING PARTY

It is important the exact times indicated for the rehearsal and for the wedding are observed. Care should be taken to have all members of the wedding party in their places at the times indicated.

The ring bearer and flower girls must be four years of age or older.

All members of the wedding party and friends should be reminded: Smoking is not permitted inside the church.

No alcoholic beverages are permitted in the church or on the church grounds.

PHOTOGRAPHERS/VIDEOGRAPHERS

Resurrection encourages the couple to employ a professional photographer for the wedding. No flash photos are permitted following the processional. The
photographer must remain in one position at the rear of the sanctuary. Flash photos may once again be taken during the couple’s recessional. The photographer may not come any earlier than the designated times listed in the section entitled Scheduling Your Wedding.

Requests are often made to videotape wedding services. The wedding party is responsible for providing personnel for this service. The camera must be placed on a tripod in an inconspicuous position. For more details, “Guidelines for Photographers and Videographers” are available through the Wedding Coordinator.

FLOWERS AND DECORATION

Altar flowers are to be provided by the bride or the church’s silk arrangements may be used. The flower girl may only scatter silk flower petals. Decorations of any kind may not be attached to the pews, (chairs), or any other furniture by gluing, nailing, pinning or taping. The bride and florist should consult with the Wedding Coordinator about the way decorations may be placed on the ends of the pews along the center aisle. All decorations, flowers, candles, etc. must be removed from the building immediately following the service.

No decorations belonging to the church may be moved. The florist may not arrive earlier than the designated times listed in the section entitled Scheduling Your Wedding.

CANDLES

The church will provide the altar candles and a lighting torch. If the couple chooses to rent candelabras, the candles must be placed inside a hurricane glass. Aisle candles are permitted in hurricane lamps only.

If the bride and groom desire a unity candle, it will be their responsibility to provide the pillar candle. The lighting will be officiated by the pastor.

RESTRICTIONS

Because of city ordinances and other restrictions, confetti, rice and birdseed are not to be distributed and/or thrown inside or outside of the church. Only bubbles used outside the church may be used for this tradition.

WEDDING CONTRACT

The contract is required to ensure the agreement between the parties. The scheduled dates and times are plainly stated as well as the names of the bride and groom.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES & FEES

The $50.00 non-refundable scheduling fee and $110.00 pre-marital counseling fee are required at the time the wedding is scheduled with the Wedding Program Director.

An invoice of financial responsibilities will be sent a minimum of two weeks prior to the wedding date.

The balance must be in the church office on the Monday before the wedding day. Please make all payments in the form of a check payable to “The Church of the Resurrection.”

SCHEDULE OF WEDDING FEES*

RESURRECTION WEST

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Deposit</td>
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<td>Premarital Counseling Course</td>
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<td>(offered at Leawood campus)</td>
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<td>Use of Resurrection West</td>
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<td>Services of pastor</td>
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<td>Musician (optional)</td>
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OFFSITE WEDDINGS

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*These fees are in effect as of January 1, 2017 and are subject to change. Offerings 12 months prior to completion of the wedding contract of the couple or their parents are accredited up to the total of the room fee.