# **Facility Guidelines**

### **Scheduling a Wedding**

Wedding preparations at ZPC begin with an agreement with a Pastor on our staff to officiate your ceremony. In order to ensure that your desired date is open, available, and confirmed on the church calendar, be sure to collaborate with the Pastor and Church office. In addition the ZPC wedding coordinator will be available to assist you in your preparations along the way, and will be present at both the rehearsal and ceremony.

Pastors who are not on the ZPC staff may be invited to preside at weddings in our facility. Please contact the church office in advance to discuss this possibility.

### Please Keep in Mind:

- > No alcoholic beverages are permitted in the church building or on the grounds; our building is also a smoke-free environment.
- > We request that products that stay on the ground such as rice, birdseed, or flower petals not be thrown on church property.
- > All music in the church building, live or recorded; must be age appropriate.

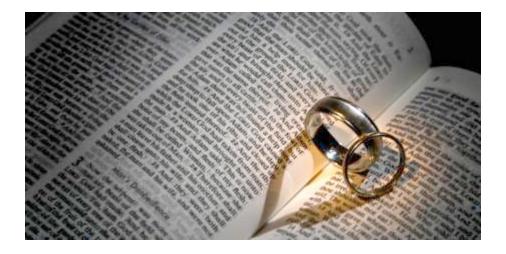
Fees	<b>ZPC Family</b>	Non-ZPC Family
Use of Sanctuary	No fee	\$400
Use of Chapel	No fee	\$150
Wedding Coordinator	\$250	\$250
Sound Technician	\$150	\$150
Candelabras (optional)	\$50	\$50
Reception	\$250	NA

A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required when the wedding is confirmed on the church calendar and will be applied to your total fee. Fees should be paid in full to ZPC at least two weeks prior to your wedding date. ZPC members may utilize the gym for receptions. Tables and chairs are available the wedding party is responsible for linens, serving dishes, place setting and other accessories. The kitchen is only available for preparation. Our cooking appliances, are reserved for other church ministries. Please deposit an additional non-refundable \$100 for receptions.

You may pay the following individuals directly:

> Florist > Photographer

> Musicians > Officiating Pastors gifts generally start at \$150



Marriage...

God's Gift

"Let marriage be held in honor among all."

-Hebrews 13:4



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## **Congratulations!**

Preparing couples for healthy, lasting, and God-honoring marriages is a ministry priority at ZPC. We join with Christians of all ages in affirming that marriage is a unique gift from a loving God who desires to reign at the heart of the relationship between a husband and a wife, and who desires to bless them in their life together. Weddings at ZPC are part of the life of our church — which means that, in a sense, the entire congregation affirms a couple's decision to be married. For this reason, only members or regular attenders at our worship services may be married at ZPC. Because of these convictions, the pastoral staff and elders of ZPC have committed themselves to a three-part strategy to support marriages.

#### **1 Spiritual Expectations**

It is our aim to help couples enter marriage in the right relationship with God and with each other, as God has expressed through biblical principles.

#### 2 Preparation

Every couple seeking to be married at ZPC is expected to participate in a comprehensive premarital program, which is grounded in a relationship with a mentor couple and the officiating pastor.

#### **3 Ongoing Resources**

We are committed to providing post-marital counseling, workshops, and retreats to help couples work through difficulties and continue to grow in their love for God and for each other.

#### Couples who wish to be married at ZPC

- > Are members or regular attenders of ZPC
- > Will participate in our premarital program
- > Must affirm the gift of Marriage statements found on the next page
- > Are strongly encouraged to abstain from sexual intimacy until their wedding day
- > If living together, are strongly encouraged to separate and live apart until the wedding

### **Our Premarital Program**

- > Begins four months prior to the wedding and includes a minimum of four sessions
- > Includes utilization of PREPARE, a nationally-calibrated couple assessment tool
- > Involves a relationship with a mentor couple trained and provided by ZPC
- > Anticipates at least one counseling session approximately six months after the wedding



## **Affirming the Gift of Marriage**

> We affirm that marriage was and is God's idea.

Genesis 2:18-24; Ephesians 5:31-32

God created males and females and provided the gift of marriage as a relationship that ideally embodies a unique physical, emotional, and spiritual oneness representing Christ himself.

> We affirm that marriage should be grounded in a God-centered value system.

3 Corinthians 6:14-16

Since God is the creator of marriage, its greatest joy is experienced by those who seek to honor him and are committed to following his design for their relationship.

> We affirm that sex and the sexual relationship are gifts from God to be shared only within the bounds of marriage.

1 Corinthians 7:2; Hebrews 13:4

Along with the gift of physical intimacy, God has provided boundaries to protect its highest good. God's call is that sexual expression should occur between men and women only within the marriage relationship. Premarital and extramarital sexuality is a violation of his gift.

> We affirm that God's desire for every marriage is that the vows spoken in public never be broken.

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7: Matthew 19:4-6

In a marriage ceremony, vows are taken not only before family and friends but before God himself. As such, the commitment of each couple should be "as long as we both shall live."

#### **About Divorce**

God's Word is straightforward in declaring that divorce is not part of his plan (Mark 10:2-12), and that it is never his desire for couples to break their promises to each other (Malachi 2:16). Divorce wounds God's heart and cannot happen apart from serious consequences to both partners and the entire body of believers (I Corinthians 7 and Matthew 18:14-17).

We realize, however, that for a variety of reasons the pain of divorce does occur. It is our conviction that God cares deeply about the hurt and trauma of divorce and desires to provide comfort, healing, and instruction for all who are affected by its consequences. It is our desire to be part of that healing process.

### For those seeking remarriage

Significant time is needed to heal and to learn from a broken marriage. We are committed to helping provide special counseling and support for those who are seeking remarriage.