

Your special day is approaching!

The day you have looked forward to your entire life.

We want to help you make this upcoming day a day you will remember.

At Fellowship, we want you to know that as excited as we are about your special day, we are even more excited about your days ahead! We believe that this one special day is just the threshold to a life long relationship. A relationship between one man and one woman who will join together to become one. A lifelong relationship. A “till death do you part” relationship. And we are committed to doing our part in helping to establish this new relationship.

We believe that marriage is ordained by God and is sacred. Marriage was God's idea that began in a garden at the beginning of our world. The Scriptures have much to say on the subject of the husband/wife relationship and we would like the opportunity to share with you the valuable insights that will strengthen your relationship together as well as your individual lives. We would show you how God intends for you to enter into the covenant of marriage with the understanding that you will remain steadfast in unconditional love, reconciliation, sexual purity, and continuing to grow in your relationship. As we help you in preparation for life together we also would help you know your own heart's relationship with God, the Father of Love, the Giver of Life, and the one who ordains marriage...

Even yours!!!

Beginning the Process...

The facilities of Fellowship Bible Church (FBC) are available to FBC members and those who attend regularly. If you are not a member or regular attendee, you may be given permission to use the facilities at FBC after completing the interview process with one of our pastors. This church believes that the marriage union should not be unequally yoked. Therefore, both the bride and the groom must give testimony of their faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour to the church leadership. Pre-marital counseling must be completed by the couple. Those under legal age must have parental consent as required by state law.

There are three pastors at our church who are available to perform the ceremony. If you prefer to use a pastor from outside this church, the pastor must contact one of our pastors by calling the church office. It is the policy of this church that any person performing a marriage ceremony must submit a "statement of faith" in writing prior to confirming the wedding date on the calendar.

Don't assume a date is open. Dates for the wedding, rehearsal, and reservations for use of the Fellowship Hall if needed, must be submitted in writing, and subsequently approved by the church office following the receipt and approval of the wedding application. No wedding or rehearsal can be scheduled that conflicts with any previously scheduled regular or special church activities. The pastor must approve the final plans for the ceremony.

After your wedding application is received, you will be contacted to schedule an interview with one of our pastors. After your initial interview with our pastor(s), your wedding date will be confirmed and the date reserved on the church calendar. At this time you can send your family and friends a card that says "Save the Date!"

Because marriage is a sacred covenant, not to be entered into lightly, FBC is committed to providing a Biblical foundation for each marriage that begins in our church, through training and counseling prior to the wedding. This is accomplished through a series of premarital counseling sessions with the pastor who will be performing your ceremony. Should the pastor performing your ceremony not be one of our FBC pastors, one of our pastors will contact the pastor performing the ceremony regarding who will work with you for your sessions.

Please reserve time in your schedule to attend and prepare for these sessions, which may cover but are not limited to: spiritual intimacy, communication, conflict resolution, finances, and sexual intimacy in marriage. They are even more important in preparing for your wedding than

selecting your gown or your reception locations!

A wedding coordinator from FBC will be assigned to your wedding. A minimum of two months prior to and then again two weeks prior to your wedding your coordinator will meet with you to review the coordinator's responsibilities. The coordinator will also work with you to help ensure that each detail of your wedding falls into place and all those in FBC connected with your wedding have the information they need to make your day and preparations as seamless as possible.

Recognizing that according to the Scriptures (Leviticus 18:22, Romans 1:24-27, and 1 Corinthians 6:9) homosexuality is a sin, FBC does not recognize homosexual marriage and will not consent to the performing of such a ceremony on church property. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office at 856.478.9559.

A Few Helpful Tips:

- *Please read through the FBC Wedding Policy located in the appendix of this folder concerning weddings conducted at FBC. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your assigned wedding coordinator.*
- *Please review, fill out, and submit the included wedding application. Please also note the included list of fees and know that this list will be addressed by your coordinator at your first meeting.*
- *If you would like to look over the facilities to get ideas for decorations or placements of attendants, etc, please feel free to come into the office during normal office hours (8:30am-4:30pm, Monday through Friday). For your convenience, please call your coordinator first to confirm that someone will be there to answer your questions.*
- *Your coordinator is meant to be a liaison between you and FBC to ease communication and help the events run smoothly. Please use her accordingly and work with her during your meetings (and after) to make your plans. She has a variety of information that may be helpful for you in various areas of the planning process, and she can be reached at the number provided to you upon the approval of your wedding.*
- *Punctuality can contribute to a smoothly run and beautiful wedding. Lack of punctuality can be a source of great tension. Plan to arrive before scheduled times for counseling, the rehearsal, and the ceremony.*
- *The following people are needed at rehearsal (normally held the evening before the wedding): the bride, groom, parents, attendants, ushers, pastor, FBC wedding coordinator, musicians, and the FBC sound technician.*
- *Plan for your rehearsal to take about 1-1.5 hours, so time your dinner accordingly. Don't forget to plan for travel time to the dinner location. Depending on the schedules of those involved the rehearsal may be held before or after the dinner. Please check with your coordinator before determining the order of events.*
- *The people who will be the official witnesses and sign the marriage certificate (usually the Maid of Honour and Best Man) should be prepared to do so when they arrive for the ceremony, or during the ceremony as planned by you and your coordinator and pastor.*

- *It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to secure musicians for the ceremony, subject to the approval of the pastor. Your coordinator or pastor can provide you with names of those in the church who may be available to be used in that capacity, and may assist you in your selection of music should you so desire. All music to be used in the ceremony must be reviewed at least one week prior to the wedding.*
- *The aisle runner, which can be obtained through your local florist or craft shop, needs to be 70 feet long.*
- *Real flower petals are not permitted unless an aisle runner is used, and even then the petals must remain on the runner to avoid damage to the carpet.*
- *The use of tape, metal, or anything that will damage or scratch the surface of the pews is not permitted. Plastic pew clips, ribbon, elastic, etc. are recommended. Pew candles are not permitted due to fire code. Please consult your coordinator with any questions.*
- *Only candles used for the unity candle are permitted in the sanctuary. Care must be taken that wax does not drip onto the carpeting or furnishings. If it does, you will be asked to see that it is carefully removed.*
- *No floral arrangements are to be placed on the piano.*
- *The artificial flowers in the sanctuary may be moved upon approval with the exception of what is attached. Anything that is moved must be returned to its original location.*
- *The seating capacity of our sanctuary is about 1,000.*
- *A Christmas wedding can save you on your wedding budget as our church is already decorated. You are welcome to add to what we have already used, however, once our holiday decorations are hung, they will not be removed until after the season.*
- *No food or drink is allowed in the sanctuary except for the elements for communion. White grape juice is recommended should you choose to celebrate communion during your ceremony.*
- *The maximum seating capacity for the fellowship hall is 200. This is using 20 round tables with 10 at each table.*

- *When using the kitchen, all garbage must be bagged and disposed of in the dumpsters located in the back parking lot. All unused food is to be removed at the conclusion of the event, unless prior arrangements have been made with your coordinator for the food to be picked up the following day.*
- *A room will be provided for the bride and her attendants before the ceremony. Although we can offer the protection of a locked room, FBC assumes no liability for items lost or stolen.*
- *A room behind the pulpit platform will be provided for the groom and his attendants to assemble before the ceremony. Because of the location of this room it is not possible to lock the door during the ceremony. Please notify your coordinator if this is a concern.*
- *Food brought in for the wedding party for before the ceremony must be approved by your coordinator and kept in the appropriate areas. No alcohol is allowed.*
- *It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to arrange for someone either in their wedding party or family/friends to remain after the ceremony and/or reception to coordinate the cleanup of decorations, food, trash, etc. in whichever rooms were used by the wedding party and/or guests.*

After Your Wedding...

As we said at the beginning, it is our desire for your wedding day to be a very special day. A day that will bring you joy as you experience it and as you look back on it with fond memories. We not only want to help you with your wedding day, but also with your marriage. FBC is committed to marriage and family because God places such an emphasis on both of these institutions. There will be some days when your relationships will take some extra tender loving care, some extra work and lots of understanding. We don't want to leave you without any help after you say "I Do." We are here to help give you some instruction on what it means to be a husband and wife; and when the time comes, a father or a mother. There are classes for young married couples, finances, parenting skills, as well as other topics, all based on the solid foundation of God's Holy Word.

Our members want to get to know you and come along beside you and encourage you in your new life together. Often times they can share from many years of marriage experience how to avoid the pitfalls that can tear a marriage apart.

Our library has books, videos, and other resources to answer many of your questions. And of course, our pastors are available to talk should you have any areas of special concern.

Fellowship Bible Church
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Website: www.aboutfbc.org

Ministers:

Pastor Phil Moser
Pastor Hal Russell
Pastor Jack Klose

Office Hours:

Monday- Friday ~ 8:30am- 4:30pm