
PLANNING A WEDDING?

WEDDING POLICIES OF

CASTLE ROCK CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Wedding policy...

It is our desire that your wedding be the happiest experience possible, and that it be all God intended it to be. God created man and woman and from the very beginning intended that they be joined in marriage, so that each might give to the other what each lacked alone. Since God designed the marriage relationship, it makes sense that He knows best how to build a happy marriage.

The Bible has some basic principles, which must be understood and applied if we hope to experience joy and fulfillment in marriage. Ignoring these principles will result in frustration and ultimate failure in the marriage relationship.

Because we are committed to both God's Word and strong marriages, we want to share the following guidelines and Scripture. We have no desire to condemn or reject anyone—but we want to live within God's principles for a solid marriage.

1. We will gladly consider performing a wedding if both parties are believers. In light of 2 Corinthians 6:4, we will not join a believer to a non-believer in marriage.

2. To better equip couples for marriage; at least three (3) counseling sessions are required prior to any marriage held at CRCC by a pastor. You will be asked to read a book, listen to tapes and participate in the pre-marital sessions and have homework.
3. We will consider remarriage where a biblically allowed divorce has occurred, (Matt. 5:31-32).
4. Couples who are living together, or who are involved in a physical relationship, will need to separate and remain sexually abstinent until after the wedding, (1 Cor. 6:13-20 & Eph. 5:3)
5. Weddings held at CRCC may be officiated by a guest pastor with permission of the Castle Rock Christian Church elders or pastor.
6. Any person in the wedding party who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs (other than those prescribed by a doctor) before or during the rehearsal and/or wedding will not be permitted to participate in the wedding. **This could mean cancellation of a wedding.**
7. **There will be NO Wedding until the pastor verbally agrees that there will be a wedding,** regardless of the number of premarital sessions that have occurred..

SCHEDULING A WEDDING...

1. Read carefully this Wedding Policy. Any questions may be directed to the pastor or wedding coordinator. You must first come into the church office, get a Wedding Handbook, and set up an appointment with the pastor. (You may set up an appointment through email at : pastorjohn@castlerockchristianchurch.org)
2. Make an appointment with the pastor at **least 3 months in advance** of the date of the ceremony.
3. **Confirm your date** for rehearsal and wedding with the office (April Ederbrock) april@castlerockchristianchurch.org to make sure that the church is available.
4. **Confirm your arrangements** for rehearsal and ceremony with the Wedding Coordinator (Marsha Lee) and Reception Coordinator (Jaynee Kahler) if the reception will be at Castle Rock Christian Church.
5. **All deposits and fees are to be paid** on or before the 2nd Counseling session. A fee structure page is included in the *Wedding Handbook*..

OTHER POLICIES

1. The pastor and wedding coordinator will be in charge of all rehearsals and weddings.
2. All rehearsals will begin promptly at the time scheduled regardless of whether or not all the wedding party is present. Persons needed at rehearsal are: bride, groom, maid/matron of honor, best man, attendants, flower girl, ring bearer, ushers, candle lighters and parents as well as musicians and sound technician
3. The pastor must approve all music played during the service.

4. **No changes for the ceremony are permitted following the rehearsal** without approval of the officiating pastor.
5. The **Marriage License** and papers must be in the hands of the pastor **no later than the last counseling session**. In the State of Washington there is a three (3) day waiting period before a wedding can take place and an expiration date of 60 days.
6. Child Care is not provided by CRCC. You may hire childcare with the approval of the Wedding Coordinator for the Ceremony.

OTHER TYPES OF CEREMONIES...

RENEWAL OF VOWS:

This type of ceremony is available for couples already married and desiring to renew their commitment to each other. A renewal of vows ceremony will be simple and will be conducted with a manner of respect to the vows and couple.

Cost for this ceremony will be determined on the basis of the services provided and payment for such services will be made prior to the ceremony.

POLICIES REGARDING RECEPTIONS...

1. There will be **NO** serving of alcoholic beverages on church ground at anytime during the reception.
2. There will be **NO SMOKING** on the church grounds (inside or outside the building) during the Rehearsal, Wedding, or reception. Restrooms are not open smoking areas!
3. Food may only be consumed in the Fellowship Hall.

The Wedding couple is responsible for the actions of their party and guests and will be financially responsible for damages incurred.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT BEING A CHRISTIAN?

The purpose of Castle Rock Christian Church is not simply to perform weddings but to introduce people to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Castle Rock Christian Church understands a person to be a Christian who has:

1. **Heard** the Word of God or has read the Scriptures to know who Jesus Christ is [[Revelation 3:20](#)]
2. **Believes** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God as well as accepts Him as their Lord and Savior [[John 6:40](#)]
3. Has **repented** of their sin (turned away from a sinful life and is not intentionally going against God) [[Mark 1:15](#)]
4. Has **confessed Christ** as their Lord and Savior before others and continues to do so [[Matthew 10:32](#)]
5. Has been **(immersed) baptized** as described in [Acts 2:38](#) and living out your Christian walk by "bearing fruit" [[John 15:1-8](#)]

(If you have questions concerning our policy, please contact one of our pastors. They will be happy to talk with you.)

Final note: To speed up the process for your premarital sessions you may want to secure the book :

Gary Chapman, *The Five Love Languages*,

(ISBN: 1-881273-15-6) You can order this book at Paperbacks Galore (360) 423-9006 and get a 20% discount.

Verse List

◆ **2 Corinthians 6:4**

4 Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses;

◆ **Matthew 5:31-32**

31 "It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.'
32 But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.

◆ **1 Corinthians 6:13-20**

13 "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food"—but God will destroy them both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.

15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never!

16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh."

17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;

20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

◆ **Ephesians 5:3**

3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.

◆ **Revelation 3:20**

20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

◆ **John 6:40**

40 For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

● **Mark 1:15**

15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

● **Matthew 10:32**

32 "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.

● **Acts 2:38**

38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

● **John 15:1-8**

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

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Elders:

Verl Lee – 274-4808
Les Greene – 274-8288
William Bangs – 501-5950

For Scheduling: Call the office for April Erdelbrock or email at:
April@castlerockchristianchurch.org

Our Wedding Coordinator:
Marsha Lee – 274-4808

Our Reception Coordinator:
Jaynee Kahler – 274-4878

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