

Staff and Fees

Pastor

Member	no fee
Nonmember	\$350

Organist

Rehearsal, member	\$175/ hour
Service, member	\$150
Rehearsal, nonmember	\$100/ hour
Service, nonmember	\$250

Additional rehearsal, vocalist or
instrumentalist \$50/
hour

Contracting vocalist/
Instrumentalist \$20 per
person

Custodian \$20/
hour

Sanctuary
(3 hour minimum) \$100/
hour

CHECKLIST

- ◆ Reserve dates for rehearsal and wedding service
- ◆ Complete wedding information form and return to the church office or email the Pastor, pastor@fpcports.org. (Reminder: our Session must authorize the service before our planning may proceed.)
- ◆ Once Session authorizes the service, contact the Organist, provide the Pastor with names and contact information for guest minister and wedding directors.
- ◆ Register and complete pre-marriage seminar.
- ◆ Arrange to meet with Pastor to plan the service.
- ◆ Pay all fees one week prior to the service.

*May God's grace be with you as you begin
your wedding journey together.*

First Presbyterian Church

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First Presbyterian Church



*What the two of you need to know about
getting married at First Presbyterian
Church.*

General Information

Congratulations! We are so pleased with your impending marriage and that you are considering First Presbyterian Church for your Christian wedding service. A few items to know immediately:

- ◆ The Session of the church (our governing board) authorizes all services of worship, including wedding services. Please request that we hold a date for you so that we can proceed with the process quickly.
- ◆ Unless waived after consultation with the Pastor, **all couples** are required to attend the pre-marriage seminar offered by Tidewater Pastoral Counselors (tidewaterpastoral.org). The tuition is \$150; please check the website for a current schedule.
- ◆ The Pastor has the authority over the wedding service. She will do her best to work with the couple's wishes as long as the structure of Christian worship is maintained.
- ◆ Let us know immediately if you wish to have your own minister preside.

Facilities

- ◆ The Sanctuary of First Presbyterian is a lovely setting for your wedding service, with two side aisles, stained glass windows and elegant wooden features. The historic nature of our church building limits the type of decorations used. Please ask ahead of time to make sure. Under no circumstances will tossing rice or confetti be permitted.
- ◆ The church has a pair of lovely, floor standing candelabra for your use, if you wish. Our narthex is an ideal location for ushers to gather to wait for guests. Other items may be available, please ask.
- ◆ The Fellowship Hall is available for your reception if you choose. Other rooms, such as the parlor and conference room, may be used as the bride's or the groom's dressing rooms.

The Service of Christian Marriage

Since the wedding service is a Christian worship service, certain specific elements must be included. These are:

- ◆ Prayers and the reading of Scripture;
- ◆ An explanation of the meaning of Christian marriage
- ◆ Music; and
- ◆ A Sermon

The couple, in consultation with the Pastor, will choose Scriptural texts and music appropriate for the service. NO secular music, including the "Wedding March," shall be played.

If you wish to hire our Director of Music Ministries, Edna Broadhurst, to play the organ or piano for your wedding, please contact her immediately: ednafpc@aol.com. You may use your own musicians if you wish. However, other organists must be approved by Mrs. Broadhurst.

The Rehearsal

The Pastor is in charge of the rehearsal. The wedding director, if there is one, has responsibility for coaching the wedding party on their duties, schedule, appearance and positions. During the wedding, the director will ensure that all guests and participants are in their places.