

Your Church Wedding and the Christian Marriage Rite

Your wedding is a special day and we are happy to be a part of it at Augustana. If you have any questions about weddings at Augustana, do not hesitate to call. A full wedding handbook with information on planning a wedding service, suggested donations and need forms is available on the church website: www.augustanachurch.org. The following is an explanation of our understanding of marriage:

Marriage is a gift of God, intended for the joy and mutual strength of those who enter it and for the well-being of the whole human family. Jesus affirmed the covenant of marriage and revealed God's own self-giving love on the cross. The Holy Spirit helps those who are united in marriage to be living signs of God's grace, love, and faithfulness.

Marriage is also a human estate, with vows publicly witnessed. The church in worship surrounds these promises with the gathering of God's people, the witness of the word of God, and prayers of blessing and intercession. (*From Evangelical Lutheran Worship*)

Augustana Lutheran Church

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Kathleen Ulland-Klinkner
Pastor

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www.augustanachurch.org



*Planning Your Wedding at
Augustana Lutheran Church*

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:14-17

Booking Your Wedding

The Wedding Date and Time – You will need to book both the church and the pastor for your wedding. Call the church office to find out availability of the church and the pastor. The pastor is also available for off-site weddings.

The Pastor – The pastor is happy to help you prepare for your marriage. It is up to you to contact the pastor to set up meeting times, etc.

The Rehearsal Date and Time – A one hour wedding rehearsal time should also be booked with the church.

Pre-Marriage Counseling – The pastor will meet with the couple to arrange the details of your wedding ceremony and for pre-marriage counseling. There are several options and will include a fee (generally \$35) for a survey or retreat. For the reduction in your marriage license fee, the state of Minnesota requires twelve hours of pre-marital counseling.

Music – If you are interested in using an organist from Augustana, please contact our organist Cecelia Kulseth (375-5778). She will help you with selecting music for your wedding service, including the prelude, processional, solos, hymns, and recessional. All musicians using the Augustana sanctuary must meet with Cecelia at the church prior to the wedding.

Facility

Our sanctuary provides seating for 350 comfortably – 375 at the most. The length of your wedding depends on its size, amount of music, and whether you include Holy Communion. We'll be happy to help you set an appropriate time for the wedding ceremony.

Guidelines

- No alcohol, or other drugs allowed on the church property. No one under the influence of such will be allowed to participate in the service.
- No smoking on the church property.
- Parties using the church will be responsible for all damages.
- The church does not assume responsibility for the security of items left in the dressing rooms, gifts on display, or any other items brought to the church for the wedding.
- No flash photography or cellular phone photography/videography during the service without prior approval.
- Decorations in the sanctuary should be discussed with the pastor.

Reception

If you would like the pastor to attend the reception, please send an invitation so that she knows you would like her there.

Information on Cost

Suggested Donations (will be adjusted for small weddings and other circumstances)

- Building use – Sanctuary
 - Members
 - Non-Members \$100
- Pastor
 - Members
 - Non-Members \$150Add mileage for weddings outside of the St. James area.
- Organist—Meeting to discuss music, rehearsal, and wedding \$125
- Additional rehearsals with soloists or instrumentalists \$25
- Custodial services \$75
- Sound Technician, if needed \$50

Names:

Pastor: Kathleen Ulland-Klinkner
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Secretary: Kyla Schlomann
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Organist: Cecelia Kulseth
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Custodian: Jim Leopold