

## WEDDING POLICY Christ Community Church



The pastor(s) and elders of Christ Community Church (CCC) feel strongly that marriage is an institution ordained, defined, and regulated by God alone, and designed to reflect the relationship of Christ to His church (see Ephesians 5:22-33). We believe marriage is a spiritual, life-long relationship between one man and one woman. We believe the marriage ceremony is an act of spiritual worship reflecting the Christian doctrine of marriage defined in the Holy Scriptures.

This policy reflects our resolve to build strong Christian marriages within the CCC local church membership, and to bring glory to our Savior, Jesus Christ

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BE MARRIED AT CCC?

1. Only CCC church members, or immediate family of CCC church members, who would both spiritually qualify for church membership under the constitution of CCC. In other words, both bride and groom give evidence of being born again, agree with our doctrinal fundamentals, and committed to godly Christian living.
2. Prospective church members, who would both qualify spiritually for Church membership under the Constitution of CCC (as stated above), and who are engaged in the church membership process.

### WHAT IS REQUIRED OF COUPLES MARRIED AT CCC?

1. Each couple married at CCC is required to complete pre-marital counseling with the pastor and/or a CCC approved pre-marital counselor. This pre-marital counseling program will be presented by the pastor to the prospective couple for mutual agreement prior to the CCC leadership committing to officiating the wedding ceremony or hosting the wedding event. Because of the time commitment involved in the counseling it is suggested that contact with the pastor be made at least six (6) months prior to setting the wedding date.
2. Special decorations, flowers, candles, aisle runners, video technicians, and musicians *must be arranged and compensated by the wedding party.*

### WHAT ABOUT THE RECEPTION?

1. The building is equipped with a warming kitchen, and the fellowship hall has ample seating for 150, and a sound system. Couples eligible to be married at CCC may use the fellowship hall for their reception. Seating set-up, catering arrangements, decorating, and clean-up are to be arranged at the expense of the couple.
2. Smoking, use of tobacco products and consumption of alcoholic beverages are not permitted at the reception or on the premises at any time.

**PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING AGREEMENT**  
**Christ Community Church**

We are delighted that God has drawn your hearts together, and that you are giving us the privilege and joy of helping you prepare for your future marriage. The pastors/elders of Christ Community Church are committed to the goal of helping you learn, grow and invite God's blessing into your marriage. This agreement lays out some biblically shaped expectations for you as a couple for the weeks and months leading up to your marriage ceremony. While our meetings together in preparation for your marriage will be a lot of work, we are convinced of the many benefits of establishing a solid foundation from the outset for a life lived together according to God's Word. We look forward to our times together.

1. **We agree to be open with our lives.** Pre-marital counseling, by its very nature, requires careful personal reflection and a willingness to discuss aspects of your lives honestly and openly. Your pre-marital counselor(s) will share their experiences with you; you need to be open and honest with us as well. We are free to ask each other any question; no subject is too sensitive. We will also be careful with any information shared.
  
2. **We will complete all assigned projects on time and completely.** The counselor(s) will assign homework each session. You are expected to complete each project prior to your next pre-marital session. You will also need to provide a photocopy of each completed assignment for the counselor(s).
  
3. **We will live our lives in the highest of Christian conduct.** God's Word is clear; believers must always carry themselves with the highest sense of moral integrity. We trust that you will guard each other's heart, purity, and reputation out of a deep love for each other and God. To protect both your purity and your reputation, you must agree not to engage in pre-marital sex, or to risk the temptation to do so by sleeping in the same house. If a situation arises where an overnight stay in the same house *seems* necessary, you must discuss the specific arrangements with your counselor(s) beforehand in order to ensure you do not violate the spirit and intention of this agreement.
  
4. **We agree to meet for all assigned sessions of pre-marital counseling.** The material covered represents the basic, essential elements of a sound marriage. Committing yourselves to understanding them, and putting these truths into practice, is a helpful start to inviting and enjoying God's blessing in your marriage and new life together. Your counselor(s) is committed to helping you get off to a good start; we need you to commit to the full set of sessions. We know that you will find the time challenging and rewarding.

**We agree to the above terms for our Pre-Marital Counseling:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_