

Weddings at Beacon Church



Weddings honor the covenant of marriage and it is our privilege as a congregation to offer our church building to support the beginning of your adventure as a married couple. We are an inclusive congregation who welcomes and acknowledges the partnership of all couples, regardless of gender.

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It is not necessary to be a member of this congregation in order to hold your wedding at Beacon; however, we ask that you respect that this is not simply a building to be rented, but rather a space of welcome and worship. Our church building is a beloved space used by the community throughout the week and as such requires thoughtful maintenance. We ask that reverence be shown by all present at the wedding and that the service remain under the sole direction of the minister. If Communion/Lord's Supper is held as a part of the service, all present must be explicitly welcomed to come to the table (in the liturgy or the bulletin), as we believe that the Communion table is a space of welcome for all people.

When reading the fee structure, you'll notice that there are certain fees waived for members, who through membership have already provided for the church's facilities and work. Either the pastor of Beacon or other professional clergy approved by the church may perform weddings for members or non-members.

Scheduling Procedures

The first step in inquiring about a wedding at Beacon is to contact the church office and speak with our pastor, Rev. Rebecca Blake, who can be reached at 267.702.0804 or info@thewordatbeacon.org.

If you decide to file an application, your wedding must be approved by the Pastor and the Session (the governing body of the church), which meets monthly.

All couples holding their wedding at Beacon Church are required to use the services of our wedding coordinator. The coordinator is to assist and answer questions during the planning period and is present at both the rehearsal and the wedding to assist with details of the service.

All meetings with the church wedding coordinator or officiant are for scheduling, visiting the sanctuary, etc. are by appointment only.

For couples planning to invite a guest pastor to officiate, please ask him/her/them to contact the pastor of Beacon Church as soon as possible to discuss worship and space issues relative to your wedding service.

Rental Time Period

The rehearsal is scheduled for one hour and should start and end on time. It is important to plan the rehearsal at a time when all of the ceremony participants (bridal party, readers, etc) can be present.

For the wedding ceremony, the rental period includes two hours before and two hours after the ceremony start time.

Should either event go over their allotted time, you will incur a late fee. Requests for special scheduling considerations should be made in advance on the Wedding Information Form.

Music

Because Beacon is in a neighborhood and because of our aging electrical system, music must be acoustic. A lectern microphone that works with Beacon's in-house sound system is available for use, but no other sound equipment is allowed.

Photography and Video

With the understanding that your wedding is a worship service, guests are not permitted to take flash photographs and videography must be limited to one professional videographer during the wedding service. Please indicate this in your bulletin.

During the service, individuals may take non-flash silent photography from their seats. Professionals may take non-flash silent photography and/or stationary videography, all from the rear and sides of the room, in order to not disrupt the service. You may gather for pictures before or after your wedding ceremony providing you remain within the allotted time frame (two hours prior to and two hours after the start time of the service).

Other Guidelines

No furniture in the church sanctuary may be removed or moved elsewhere, except with the approval and direction of staff. No alcoholic beverages are permitted and nothing should be thrown (rice, confetti, bird seed, flower petals, etc.) that would litter church property.

For non-members, a copy of your insurance certificate, effective for the date of your ceremony, must be provided to the church at least a week prior to your ceremony.

*half of the sanctuary fee is due with the application form in order to reserve your chosen date. The balance is due by the evening of the wedding rehearsal, in addition to all other fees (officiant, coordinator, custodian, and security deposit). Please refer to the rental agreement for exact amounts. Checks are to be made out to "Beacon Church" for all wedding fees, excepting the coordinator fee and the officiant fee, which should be made out to the coordinator and the officiant by name, respectively.

**We require that couples meet with the wedding officiant at least two times before the wedding ceremony, for consultation and planning.

For additional questions, please contact the church office:

Rev. Rebecca Blake
267 702 0804
info@thewordatbeacon.org
2364 East Cumberland Street
Philadelphia, PA 19125