

St. Martin's United Church

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St. Martins seeks affirmation of diversity in its congregational life and welcomes all to the Sacrament of Marriage



*The Service of Marriage
Within*

St. Martin's United Church

WELCOME

The congregation and staff of St. Martin's United Church welcomes your decision to consider having your marriage within our congregation.

The following information is provided to assist couples, and the church, to plan the wedding service. A church wedding is a service of worship and praise to God for the gifts of love and marriage, as well as an opportunity for the wedding couple to make a public promise of mutual love and commitment. The church offers a religious service to couples seeking God's blessing upon their marriage. Persons who seek a secular marriage are advised to inquire to a marriage commissioner who will conduct the wedding in some mutually acceptable setting. A list of marriage commissioners can be found at the Court of Queen's Bench (933-5135) or in the yellow pages under Notaries Public.

A MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE.

A Marriage preparation course is strongly encouraged as part of the preparation a couple makes for a wedding at St. Martin's. A number of courses are offered in Saskatoon and some information is available through our church office.

THE WEDDING DATE AND TIME

This date and time should be confirmed as far in advance as possible and prior to the ordering of any invitations or the making of a deposit on reception facilities. If several weddings are scheduled on the same 'day, it is the practice to provide at least an hour and one half spacing, i.e. a 2:00 p.m. wedding would not be followed by another before 3:30p.m. YOU NEED TO CONFIRM THE DATE AND TIME OF YOUR WEDDING BY SPEAKING TO THE OFFICIATING MINISTER WITHIN A MONTH OF NEGOTIATING A DATE WITH THE CHURCH OFFICE. IF YOU DO NOT CONFIRM THE DATE WITHIN A MONTH WE WILL ASSUME THAT YOU HAVE MADE ALTERNATE ARRANGEMENTS.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial matters are a part of wedding planning, and to discuss them openly and frankly is important. Individual financial situations vary greatly so the donation for the minister(*) is open to negotiation if there are special circumstances. All other fees are fixed, and should be paid through the church office.

There is no differentiation made between members and adherents regarding these amounts which are determined from time to time. An income tax receipt will be issued for the donation made to the church when requested.

MUSIC

Music is often an important part of a wedding. An organ & piano are located in both the chapel and the church. As noted earlier, the church can provide an organist on request, but if couples wish to ask a friend or relative to play, this is quite acceptable, if this person is a competent musician. Some weddings use the sound system for pre-recorded music and a couple may also choose to have no music. Solos are arranged in the same manner, i.e. a soloist may be provided by the church, the couple may ask a person of their choice, or the couple may choose not to have a soloist. In cases where a friend or relative is asked to play or sing, a gift (similar to that given other attendants) is more appropriate than a fee

SETTING UP AND CLEANING UP

This is done by our caretaker on a regular basis. Special requests should be discussed with the staff as early as possible. There is a wheel-chair ramp and elevator into the church for those requiring accessibility.

CONFETTI AND DECORATIONS

Confetti is prohibited inside and outside the church!

Flowers and decorations are welcomed into the church. We ask that items not be placed on the grand piano. The number and variety of floral arrangements is simply a matter of personal taste and placement can be negotiated with participating minister. Any flowers left at the church will be used for the Sunday morning service and then distributed to shut-ins or nursing homes.

TIMES

Times are important! Pre-marriage interviews and appointments are arranged at times most convenient to the minister and couple. Rehearsals are usually held on the evening before the wedding, although in the case of a very small wedding the couple may choose not to have a rehearsal but to arrive a few minutes early on the day of the wedding for a short briefing. Ushers are asked to arrive one-half hour before the service begins, wedding party members should arrive 10 or 15 minutes before and the bridal party just a minute or two before the appointed hour.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

This document grants the minister or marriage commissioner permission to conduct the wedding, and indicate that the legal requirements have been fulfilled. Following the wedding the person officiating mails the Marriage Registration, which is signed and witnessed at the ceremony, and the signed copy of the Marriage Licence, to Vital Statistics in Regina. The licence is valid for a period of three months. It must be purchased a minimum of 24 hours before the wedding. Please bring the licence to the rehearsal.