

Wedding Booklet



*Peace Lutheran Church
&
The Little White Church on the Hill*

Planning List*3 - 6 Months Before The Wedding*

- _____ Make contact with the wedding hostess.
- _____ Make contact with organist/pianist and soloist.
- _____ Make contact with reception committee is reception is at Peace Lutheran.

3 Months Before The Wedding

- _____ Begin pre-marital counseling sessions.
- _____ Meet with organist/pianist to select music.

1 Month Before The Wedding

- _____ Obtain marriage license at County Court house.
- _____ Review plans with wedding hostess.

1 Week Before The Wedding

- _____ Bring marriage license to church office.
- _____ Ask any questions you might have regarding your special day!

Notes/Ideas

Check List

- _____ All church/pastor fees must be paid at least two weeks prior to wedding.
- _____ Organist/piano fee should be paid at time of rehearsal unless requested otherwise.
- _____ Fourteen drip less white candles.
- _____ Unity candle with two small tapers (opt.)
- _____ Snack food for wedding party on day of wedding.
- _____ Wedding license to church office one week prior to wedding.
- _____ Remind wedding participants of rehearsal time and time to be at church day of the wedding.
- _____ Remind photographer and family that no flash pictures are to be taken during the wedding.
- _____ Select two people to direct the parking of cars if the wedding is at the LWCH
- _____ Provide “nibbles and beverages” for wedding party.
- _____ Select person to remove all personal wedding items from church.

Wedding Guidelines

Peace Lutheran Church
1717 Larson Road
Silvana, WA 98287

Little White Church on the Hill
23525 Pioneer Highway
Silvana, WA 98287

We want to help make your ceremony a beautiful and worshipful experience!

The wedding couple shall meet with the officiating pastor to make all the arrangements for the premarital counseling sessions, rehearsal and wedding.

Wedding Hostess

The wedding hostess is a member of our congregation who works with the pastor to assist you in planning and carrying out your wedding plans. She is a capable person who can help you in many ways.

Wedding Hostess _____

Telephone Number _____

Premarital Counseling Sessions

At Peace Lutheran Church we emphasize the place of family and the importance of our congregational family. We want to get to know you. If you are not a member of our parish and desire to have your wedding at Peace Lutheran or the Little White Church on the Hill we ask:

1. Plan your wedding with an emphasis on the worship of our Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Participate in premarital counseling: the officiating pastor will meet with you and guide you through the Prepare Enrich inventory. Following that session you will meet again to review the inventory, discuss the subjects of marriage, a Christian home, the importance of a continued relationship with Jesus Christ and the details of the wedding itself.

Obtaining A Marriage License

1. Both parties must sign the application at the Marriage License Bureau in the County Auditor's Office. If both parties (over 18 years of age) are not able to apply in person the application may be picked up, filled out, notarized and returned for issuance of a license. A license may be purchased at any courthouse within the State of Washington is legal.
2. The marriage license is issued at the time of application but is not valid for three days.
3. Legal age for male and female applicants is 18 years. If 17 years of age, the applicant must have written permission of the father, mother or legal guardian. Such consent must be sworn to before a notary public, or a parent may

4. Our normal procedure is:
 - a. Candle lighting
 - b. Seating of Grandparents & Parents
 - c. Solo may be sung
 - d. Processional:
 1. Groom, Best Man, Ushers
 2. Bridesmaids
 3. Maid of Honor
 4. Ring Bearer & Flower Girl
 5. Bride on left arm of father
 - e. Solo may be sung
 - f. Invocation & Scriptures
 - g. Solo may be sung
 - h. Meditation, Vows, Rings
 - i. Prayer, Unity Candle
 - j. Recessional
 - k. Usher out Parents & Grandparents
 - l. Usher out congregation

Tacks, nails, scotch tape and other products which may damage the wooden pews are not permitted.

5. If flower girls are going to toss petals they must use fresh flowers only.
6. Flowers may be removed after the ceremony to the reception; ask your florist to keep this “dual purpose” in mind when designing arrangements.

Couple’s Responsibilities

1. The couple shall discuss their plans with the wedding hostess.
2. During the time that pictures are being taken, we encourage the couple to have arranged for some food/drinks for the wedding party. It is important that everyone has eaten and stays hydrated.
3. The couple will be responsible for selecting someone to be in charge of the guest book and any gifts brought to the church.
4. One person should be asked to be responsible for gathering and removing all articles belonging to the wedding party following the service.

Wedding Hostess Responsibilities

1. She shall talk with the bride in advance of the rehearsal. She wants to get acquainted with you.
2. She shall attend the wedding rehearsal to direct the wedding party. She will know before hand what the bride wants.
3. She shall seek to create a worshipful atmosphere for the wedding by her directions, suggestions, and attention to specific parts of the service.

accompany and sign consent at the time of application.

4. Applicants under the of 17 must have the consent of the Superior Court. This is considered a “Marriage of Necessity”. If either or both are 16 years or younger, they will be required to meet with a Superior Court Judge in the Juvenile Office.
5. The marriage license is void if not used within 60 days.
6. We ask that you bring the wedding license to the church office one week before the wedding.

Your Wedding Is A Worship Service

Remember in your planning that your wedding is a worship service in the house of God. You may choose to plan a very special worship service, one that is meaningful to you and for the people who come to worship with you. Your pastor will work with you and counsel you on these matters. You have invited your relatives and friends to this worship service as you commit yourselves to each other before God and we praise our God for creating this vital union.

Officiating Pastor

An ordained pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will officiate at all weddings unless other arrangements are approved prior to booking of a wedding.

Building Regulations

The use of alcohol and/or other drugs are strictly prohibited on church property. As the wedding is a worship service, we have a very strict policy about alcohol being consumed before the wedding. The church is not against alcohol but how and when it is used is of importance. The pastor will ask a person not to participate in a wedding service if they have been drinking previous to the wedding service. Smoking is not allowed in any church buildings and we ask that people who smoke do so away from building entrances.

Music

Music appropriate for a church wedding is to be reviewed with the pastor/organist prior to the wedding rehearsal. There is a wide assortment of music to be played with a wealth of good music available. There is some popular music that may be appropriate and used in a worship service. Some sentimental songs are inappropriate in the church where the worship service speaks of commitment to Jesus Christ and to each other. Since this is a worship service, you may think of having congregational singing, as your family and friends have come to worship with you. You may wish to have them join in the prayers and praise of the service. The music staff at Peace Lutheran is available for suggestions if needed. Taped or "canned" music is not allowed for wedding services at either church.

- must be returned.
2. The church has candelabrum which require 14 white, drip less candles. Candles should be 16" tall with a base of 3/4".
 3. Glass enclosed candles may be placed on the window sills. (14 windows at LWCH - 16 at Peace)
 4. Ribbons are permitted on the aisle side of the pews if masking tape or appropriate hooks are used. Tacks, nails, scotch tape and other products which may damage the wooden pews are not permitted.
 5. If flower girls are going to toss petals they must use fresh flowers only.
 6. Flowers may be removed after the ceremony to the reception; ask your florist to keep this "dual purpose" in mind when designing arrangements.

Flowers At Peace Lutheran

1. Flowers, greens and candles may be used. There is one flower vase attached to the short wall behind the altar. The height or size of the bouquet is your choice. There is a line that may be taken from the church to the florist. Basket of flowers may be used at your wedding and may be placed on the flowers stands on each side of the altar.
2. Plastic flowers are not acceptable.
3. If candelabrum are used, we ask that white drip less candles be purchased (16" with a 7/8/ base).
3. The candelabrum are not to be moved from the sanctuary to the Fellowship Hall.
4. Ribbons are permitted on the aisle pews if masking tape or appropriate hooks are used.

be loyal to you with my whole life and with all my being.

5. I ____, take you ____, to be my wedded wife/husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance, and thereto I pledge to you my faithfulness.
6. In the presence of the Lord and before our families and friends, I ____, take you ____, to be my wife/husband, promising with Christ's Spirit, to be our loving and faithful husband/wife, in prosperity and in need, in joy and sorrow, in sickness and in health, to forgive you as we have been forgiven, to honor and cherish you, and give you encouragement as long as we both shall live. As this rind has no end, neither shall my love for you. Wherever you go I will live; your people shall be my people, and your God my God as long as we both shall live.
7. (For older couples) I ____, take you ____, to be my wife/husband and pledge you my faithfulness, till death us do part.

As you exchange rings, you may say: **I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.**

Flowers At The Little White Church

1. Flowers, greens and candles may be used. Except for the two flower vases on the altar, the florist must provide containers. Plastic flowers are not to be used. Liners for our altar vases are available at the church office and

Soloist

Be sure to ask this person early so he/she may practice with the organist/pianist and clearly understand his/her part in the service. There is no sound system available for soloists at the LWCH.

Videotaping

Videotaping of the service is allowed under the following conditions:

1. LWCH - stationary taping may be done from the side aisles.
2. PLC - stationary taping must be done from the back of the sanctuary or from the classroom opening above the back of the sanctuary.
3. Under no circumstances will videotaping be done from the front of the altar area. An unattended video camera may be set-up at the side of the altar.

Bulletins

Bulletins may be meaningful in your wedding to announce the form of the worship service and the people in your wedding party. They make a fine insert to be sent to those unable to attend your wedding. Church staff are prepared to assist you with ordering and/or preparing a bulletin if requested.

Parking

At Peace Lutheran parking is adequate. When you expect 100 guests or more at the LWCH, please select two people who can be instructed for parking on the grass. Please give these names to the Wedding Hostess in advance. They should be at the LWCH at least one hour before the wedding.

Flower Girl/Ring Bearer

The use of very young children (2-4) in the wedding service is discouraged.

Aisle Runners

Aisle runners at the LWCH are not allowed. They may be used at Peace Lutheran as guests can be ushered down the side aisles.

Ushers

Ushers should be present at the church at the time of pictures or one and a half hours before the wedding and their responsibilities made very clear. The wedding hostess will give them the necessary directions regarding the correct procedure for ushering guests.

Photographs

Picture taking is permissible before and after the ceremony with the suggestion that this is done before the service. Many couples find it more relaxing to have the formal pictures taken before the wedding so that they have more time with their family and friends during the reception. For pictures taken before the wedding, allow two hours in order that this period is not rushed and hurried. No pictures are taken in the sanctuary ½ hour before the wedding. NO FLASH pictures are to be taken during the wedding ceremony. Your photographer should check with the pastor/wedding hostess for specific pictures. Reverence and respect should be shown at all times in posing for pictures before the altar.

Vows

As your wedding is a worship service and the vows you speak to each other are spoken before God, we ask that you give serious consideration to the words you speak in your vows.

The following are a selection of vows that may be used:

1. I take you ____, to be my wife/husband, from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come, and with the help of God, I promise to be faithful to you as He gives us life together.
2. I take you ____, to be my wife/husband. I promise before God and these witnesses to be your faithful husband/wife, to share with you in plenty and in want, in joy and sorrow, in sickness and in health, to forgive and strengthen you and to join with you so that together we may serve God and others as long as we both shall live.
3. I take you ____, to be my wife/husband and these things I promise you: I will be faithful to you and honest with you; I will respect, trust, help and care for you; I will share my life with you, I will forgive you as we have been forgiven; and I will try with you to better understand ourselves, the world and God; through the best and worst of what is to come as long as we live.
4. ____, I take you to be my wife/husband from this time onward, to join with you and to share all that is to come, to give and to receive, to speak and to listen, to inspire and to respond, and in all circumstances of our life together to