Before an appointment can be set with one of the pastors, you must have read this Handbook carefully. If you are comfortable with the information provided, you may call the church office and request a pre-counseling appointment with a pastor. If you have any questions concerning the three factors, please feel free to call the office for further explanation. Prior to coming to your pre-marital counseling appointment, you will be asked to complete the Personal Profile sheets found in this packet. The information on this Personal Profile will be used during your pre-marital counseling interview. During this interview, options for pre-marital counseling will be discussed.

Again, congratulations to both of you. We look forward to helping you make your wedding day a truly awesome experience that will be remembered for a lifetime.

Sincerely in Christ

Reverend Chester L. McGensy, D.D.

Senior Pastor

Family Community Church

Rev. Chester McGensy, D.D.
Senior Pastor
2434 East Nees Ave.
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WEDDINGS

Family Community Church

Love.....

Honor....

Obey....

I Corinthians 13:4-7
Ephesians 5:22, 25 & 33

Congratulations on your decision to marry. Marriage is one of the most honorable institutions designed by God, and we trust this will be one of the most joyous occasions of your life. Because marriage is such a crucial decision for two individuals, the pastors of Family Community Church have specific guidelines to follow before committing to officiating a wedding ceremony. Our purpose as a church is to give guidance in spiritual issues and to direct people in ways that are pleasing to the Lord. The guidance we give comes from a strong emphasis on following the instructions given in the Bible concerning the joining of a man and a woman in holy matrimony.

We believe three factors are vitally important as the basis for a healthy, Biblical marriage relationship.

These factors are:

1. ***Scripture teaches us that a couple shouldbe committed to Christ and the Biblicalmodel of a Godly marriage relationship.***

2. ***A couple seeking to be united inmarriage by a minister of this church shouldbe currently reserving sexual relations and/or cohabitation for a time following theirmarriage ceremony.***
   "Marriage should be honored by all, andthe marriage bed kept pure, for God willjudge the adulterer and all the sexuallyimmoral." Heb. 13:4 (NIV)

3. ***A couple should have a specific course ofpre-martial counseling which theysuccessfully complete prior to entering intomarriage.***

"By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures." Prov.24:4 (NIV)

GENERAL INFORMATION

CLERGY

Christian weddings only and a member of the pastoral staff or the Wedding Coordinator of Family Community Church must be present at all ceremonies.

COUNSELING

A pastor from Family Community Church will require that the bride and groom attend a minimum of four(4) counseling sessions before the ceremony. The bride and groom are also encouraged that if they are not attending another church, they attend services at Family Community Church during the interim before the wedding.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

One of the services provided by Family community church is a wedding Coordinator. This person is the liaison between your wedding party and the Family Community Church. To ensure a smooth and successful wedding ceremony, we require that our Wedding Coordinator assist you with your wedding ceremony here at Family Community Church or at a remote location (No wedding will be preformed by our pastoral staff without the assistance of our wedding coordinator). The Wedding Coordinator will work with the bride and groom assisting with direction and guidelines in the planning and details of the ceremony (only). She will assist the bridal party on their roles for the wedding day. On the wedding day, she will arrive early to oversee the seating of guests and make sure the ceremony runs smoothly. Even if you have your own Wedding Coordinator, **in the absence of the Pastor, the Family Community Church Wedding Coordinator has the final word.**

RECEPTIONS

Cake & Punch reception in Foyer (only) is available upon request. Cake or Punch is not provided by FCC, and must be approved prior to wedding agreement.

REHEARSAL

The rehearsal is generally scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on the evening before the wedding. Whether, the wedding will take place at the church or a remote location. The time should be confirmed with the Wedding Coordinator who will be in contact with you approximately one month before the rehearsal to confirm the details of your wedding. All members of the wedding party, including the ushers and both sets of parents should be in attendance.

The bride and groom are responsible to select the wedding party and have the wedding party at the rehearsal on time. In the event the wedding party is not present at the set time for rehearsal; the rehearsal will take place with those that are present. If the bride and groom choose to add an additional rehearsal time for those that were late or not present at the original rehearsal, a set fee of $100.00(cash) is to be paid at the time of scheduling the new rehearsal time.

The presiding Pastor may or may not be present. In his absence the Wedding Coordinator will be in charge of the rehearsal.

For weddings taking place at the church please understand that the rehearsal is not for the purpose of decorating the sanctuary. Decorating should be planned in advance and scheduled for an earlier time. (Flowers may be delivered the morning of the wedding, however, prior arrangements with the church need to be made).

FLORIST

Your selection of flowers, plants and candles will add beauty and festivity to your wedding. You will want to discuss the following information and policies with your florist.

1. All candles used for the wedding must be dripless. If using a standing candelabra, the cost per unit is **$25.00.** The cost per candle is **$2.00.**
2. Candle lighters must carry brass candle lighters(these items are not provided by the church). No open flame candles will be allowed.
3. Aisle candles are not permitted.
4. Aisle runners are not permitted for safety purposes.
5. Pew bows are permitted, but must be attached with Florist hooks.
6. Arrangements for floral deliveries should be discussed with the Wedding Coordinator. It is important to realize that floral deliveries need to be arranged early since adequate time is needed to allow for set-up. Specific arrangements should be made with the florist to pick up rented articles immediately following the wedding.
7. All floral arrangements must be self-contained so that absolutely no water will leak out or spill.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Pictures can preserve your special day and bring back memories for years to come. Choose your photographers with care. It is important that your photographer clear, in advance, all photo plans with the wedding coordinator.

You and your photographer will be given a maximum of freedom to record the shots you desire but your photographer will not be allowed to interfere with the duties of the pastor or interfere with the sanctity of the ceremony.

1. No flash photos may be taken during the service. If a videographer is used during the service, they will need to meet with the wedding Coordinator to discuss appropriate placement and movement.

MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES

Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on church grounds. No one in the wedding party is allowed to consume any alcohol before the wedding.

Smoking is not encouraged, and is not permitted on church grounds.

Rice, confetti and birdseeds are not permitted on church grounds.

Standard seating arrangement is included in the facility use.

Custom seating arrangements are available and will be considered for an additional fee. Min. Charge $300.

The bride and groom are responsible for securing help to clear the facility of all clothing and accessories. This must be done immediately after the wedding ceremony.

FEE SCHEDULE

FCC Member
(Non-Negotiable)
The Fee Includes:
Pre-marital counseling
Officiating Minister
Use of Facility (Total of three (3) hours)
Sound Technician
Custodian
Wedding Coordinator
Total Fee: $650.00

Non-Member
(Non-Negotiable)
The Fee Includes:
Pre-marital counseling
Officiating Minister
Use of Facility
(Total of three (3) hours)
Sound Technician
Custodian
Wedding Coordinator
Total Fee: $1,200.00

Remote Location / Wedding Fees
(applies to Fresno, Clovis Area)
The Fee Includes:
Pre-martial counseling
Officiating Minister
Wedding coordinator
Total Fee: $275. 00

For weddings that include a guest list of 25 persons or less, the ceremony may be held up to two hours in one of our smaller rooms for $125.00.

Included in the above fees, a One Hundred Dollar ($100.00) **non-refundable deposit** to secure the ceremony date will be required at the time of signing the contract (not applicable for Remote Location Wedding).

The balance is due thirty (30) days prior to the wed-ding date. If balance is not paid as stated above, the wedding date will be removed from the church calen-dar without notice.

(Revised 05.23.19)