**TRINITY OF MINNEHAHA FALLS**

**WEDDING BOOK**

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**INTRODUCTION**

Congratulations on your engagement! We are so excited you are considering Trinity as the place where you would like to unite in marriage. We encourage you to take these initial steps in planning your wedding day.

**Contact Trinity to select wedding date and time.**Please contact Kolleen at kmorgan@trinityfalls.org who will coordinate the church calendar to be sure your potential date is available. There is a $100 deposit fee to hold the date for your wedding, along with the initial registration form.

**Communicate with the pastor you would like to officiate at your wedding ceremony to ensure he is available.**Trinity can always provide a pastor and we are more than willing to accommodate guest pastors. The officiating pastor needs to be ordained and licensed in Minnesota.

**Contact our Wedding Coordinator, Meghan Ronayne Meghan.ronayne@gmail.com**
Trinity provides a wedding coordinator to assist you in planning and carrying out your wedding. You will discuss initial wedding needs and any questions you have. She will help with all the wedding day details including service planning, communication with staff, rehearsal and your ceremony.

**Contact Kolleen at kmorgan@trinityfalls.org to schedule pre-marriage counseling.** (see page 3)

**Wedding Ceremony, Sanctuary
(effective September 1, 2017)**

**Active Members: $750
Inactive or Non-Members: $1100**- Facility, grounds, and maintenance
- Pre-marriage counseling
- Wedding coordinator
- Sound technician
- Candelabras and a unity candle stand

**Wedding Reception, Lower Fellowship Hall, $400**- Facility
- Kitchen Coordinator
- Custodial services
- Dishwashing
- Hall holds up to 200 people (max. capacity)

**RECEPTION INFORMATION**The use of the Lower Fellowship Hall should be reserved at the time you schedule your wedding. The kitchen is well equipped with dinnerware, flatware, punch bowls, ladles, and tablecloths for the serving table.

You are welcome to use an outside caterer. Please ask the caterer to call the church office at least two weeks prior to the wedding date and arrange a time to meet with the kitchen coordinator to become familiar with the kitchen and reception facilities. The caterer is asked to make a $100 damage deposit which will be refunded as appropriate following a post-wedding inspection of the kitchen.

**PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELING**The Prepare Inventory is the tool we use in the pre-marriage sessions. Prepare is a customized couple assessment completed online that identifies a couple’s strength and growth areas.

Pre-marriage counseling is an important part of marriage preparation. We highly encourage all couples to do pre-marriage counseling with the pastor who will be officiating. If Trinity’s pastor is desired, it is expected that you meet at least three times. Call Kolleen in the church office to schedule this.

This program will help couples in the following areas:
- Explore strength and growth areas
- Strengthen communication skills
- Identify and manage major stressors
- Resolve conflict using the Ten Step Model
- Develop a more balanced relationship
- Explore family of origin issues
- Discuss financial planning and budgeting
- Establish personal, couple and family goals
- Understand and appreciate personality differences

**MUSIC**For many, music is an integral part of worship. When thinking about and planning your wedding, keep in mind the nature of Christian worship as a joyful, Christ-centered experience. The wedding coordinator can provide contact information for musicians and vocalists if you are looking for recommendations.

**PHOTOGRAPHS & VIDEO***You are welcome to video-record your wedding. We ask that no additional lights be set up or that the video equipment be used in a manner that distracts from the wedding service. We encourage you to hire a qualified photographer to capture your wedding day.*- During the service the photographer should keep flash
 pictures to a minimum to avoid distracting from the service.
- Group photos should be taken prior to the service.

**FLOWERS, DECORATIONS & RICE**

As you determine how you’d like to decorate for your wedding, these are helpful things to know:
- If you are using an aisle runner, Trinity’s aisle is 100 feet
 long with 20 pews on each side.
- If you would like to leave your flowers on the altar for the
 Sunday service, let the wedding coordinator know at least a
 week prior so that it can be arranged with the church flower
 schedule.
- If you are using an outdoor celebratory departure method, we
 ask that you use bubbles or birdseed instead of rice.

There are two candelabras that may be decorated with flowers or greens.

**ALCOHOL & SMOKING POLICY**The use of alcohol is not permitted in the church or on any church property.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the building.

**WEDDING DAY**Rooms are available for the bridal party to use. The wedding coordinator will show you where these rooms are located. It is a good idea to assign someone in your group to clear these rooms of your belongings following the wedding. The church is not responsible for articles that are lost, stolen, or left behind after the wedding.

You may want to provide a light snack for those in the wedding party who may not have had time to eat during the day. Your wedding coordinator can show you a suitable location to have food available, if you wish.

We want this to be a great experience for you. As Jesus said, “This is my commandment that you love one another that your joy may be full.” May you know the fullness of joy as you love one another in Christ Jesus.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kolleen at kmorgan@trinityfalls.org.

**GENERAL ORDER OF SERVICE
(CEREMONY)**
Processional
Greeting
Prayer

Scripture Reading
Special Music

Scripture Reading
Message
Statement of Intent
Marriage Vows
Exchange of Rings
Announcement of Marriage

Lighting of the Unity Candle
Special Music
Blessing of Marriage
Parents’ and/or Family Blessing

Prayers
Lord’s Prayer
Benediction
Presentation of Couple
Recessional
Postlude

This order is provided as a reference – you may modify as desired.

**WEDDING VOWS**

Feel free to write your own vows.

I take you, \_\_\_, to be my wife/husband from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come and I promise to be faithful to you until death parts us.

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 seek to better understand you, the world, and God, through the best and worst of what is to come until death parts us.

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 share God and others as long as we both shall live.

I take you, \_\_\_, to be my wife/husband, to live with you from this day on, in times of joy and suffering, wealth and poverty; to love and honor you forever according to God’s gracious will; and to these ends, I pledge you my trust.

I take you, \_\_\_, to be my wife/husband, from this time forward, to join with you and to share all that is to come, to give and receive, to speak and to listen, to inspire and to respond, and in all circumstances of our life together to be loyal to you with my whole life and with all my being, until death parts us.

I take you, \_\_\_, to be my wife/husband. I promise before God and these friends to be your loving and faithful husband/wife, to share with you in wealth and poverty, in joy and sorrow, in sickness and in health, as long as we both shall live, with the help of God.

I, \_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_, as a gift from God, 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 as long as we both shall live, according to God’s holy ordinance; and thereto I pledge you my faithfulness.

**INITIAL INFORMATION FOR WEDDING AT TRINITY**

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| **WEDDING DATE** |
| **BRIDE’S NAME** |
| Member? | Non-member? | Email: |
| Address |
| Phone: (H) (Cell) |
| **GROOM’S NAME** |
| Member? | Non-member? | Email: |
| Address |
| Phone: (H) (Cell) |
|  |
| Wedding Time: |
| Reception at Trinity? | Caterer |
| Meet w/Kitchen Coordinator | Date | Time |
| Address after wedding |
| **Please return to Kolleen Morgan,** **along with your $100 deposit** |
| - - - OFFICE USE ONLY - - - |
| Arranged for marriage counseling? | When: |
| Pastor: |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Deposit: Amount Paid | Final: Amount Paid |
|  Date |  Date |
|  Check # |  Check # |

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