



DOOR CREEK CHURCH

Wedding Guidelines

Door Creek Church has established the following guidelines for couples seeking to be married by or at this church. Your officiating pastor is available to discuss this information in more detail should you desire to do so.

We believe that marriage is a covenant between a man and a woman who make promises to each other and before God to love each other sacrificially and faithfully the way Jesus loves us. Our policies regarding weddings emerge from this conviction.

As a church, we believe God's design for marriage has a man and a woman uniting for life and we desire that each couple married at our church will flourish in their new relationship. We are responsible before God to marry only those people who **a)** have God's blessing (favor) for their marriage and who **b)** are prepared for the demands and responsibilities of this relationship. Marriage is work! You don't expect to get other jobs without qualifications - likewise there are qualifications for marriage.

Standards for Marriage

This means that as Christian pastors we cannot marry a Christian to a non-Christian (2 Corinthians 6:14). The Bible teaches that the heart of marriage is a deep spiritual oneness. If your spouse cannot understand the central motive of your heart and the driving force of your life, then this deep unity that God intends cannot be realized.

Sexual intimacy is a God-given and essential part of marriage intended to follow rather than precede a wedding ceremony. Couples seeking to be married at Door Creek Church or by a Door Creek Church pastor are encouraged to live celibately, and if possible apart, before the wedding.

Premarital Counseling

We have designed our marriage preparation to provide you with the best foundation for a lifetime of marriage, not just for your wedding day. We suggest allowing up to six months to complete this preparation. Our Premarital Class is part of this preparation process and is offered twice a year. Premarital preparation is a prerequisite to being married by a DCC pastor or at Door Creek Church and must be provided by or, in exceptional cases, approved by the DCC pastoral staff.

In addition to our Premarital Class, you will be paired with marriage mentors who will schedule additional sessions with you. The officiating pastor will also meet with you both in order to follow up and plan the wedding ceremony.

If you agree to the above guidelines, please acknowledge your agreement by signing below. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the termination of a contract with Door Creek Church at the discretion of the officiating pastor.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20__

Signature of Groom

Signature of Bride