

## *Your Wedding at First Congregational United Church of Christ*

*Congratulations! First Congregational shares in your happiness and we are pleased to assist you in planning a beautiful church wedding!*

Important information to get you started:

### ***Capacity***

Our beautiful sanctuary holds approximately 185 people.

### ***Setting a Date / Choosing a Minister***

- Please contact the church office as soon as you have a date.
  
- At least three months before the wedding, please make an appointment with the minister who is conducting your service to discuss details and setup a rehearsal for your wedding ceremony.
  - Our church's minister can officiate your wedding ceremony based on availability. Our minister asks you agree to a couple's meeting several months before the wedding.
  - We recognize there are times when a friend or relative is a minister and would like to conduct your wedding ceremony. We encourage this type of participation.

Please let the office know of your decision as soon as possible. We will provide you information to share with your guest minister and ask you confirm their standing on the Wedding Ceremony Agreement.

### ***Music***

Music is an important part of your service. Our music minister and organist is Jim Molina. You may contact him directly to make arrangements at: [camayal1@aol.com](mailto:camayal1@aol.com).

A guest vocal or instrumental soloist maybe used and should contact Jim well in advance for rehearsal. We can recommend a vocal or instrumental soloist as well.

### ***Wedding Host***

The church will provide you with a "wedding host" to guide you on church procedures, answer any questions and assist you at the rehearsal and on your wedding day. This fee is included in the Wedding Cost.

### ***Decor***

- Two candles are available for your use on the altar. First Church does not provide a unity candle, but you may supply your own. *Candles in the pews/aisles are prohibited.*
  
- The setting in the sanctuary is beautiful without much adornment. A lovely centerpiece on the altar is usually just the right touch. We encourage the use of the florist of your choice. If you need a recommendation for a local florist, we would be happy to assist.

- We discourage the use of an aisle runner. They can be a hazard. If you are bringing an aisle runner, please let us know in advance.
- The church does not prepare a wedding bulletin or program for the service. You are most welcome to design and purchase your own. The minister will be able to provide an order of the service at your request.
- We will provide the wedding party with a bride's room, groom's room, guest sign-in table and gift table.

### *Miscellaneous*

- Please be thoughtful about picture taking. The photographer you choose should have sensitivity to the church and worship. We request that photographers and videographers check-in with the wedding host prior to the service to coordinate.
- The wedding rehearsal begins the entire wedding experience. It is usually held the evening before and is scheduled at the time your wedding is scheduled. The church is available to you for three hours. If more time is needed for the rehearsal, please contact your wedding host to discuss.

Remember to bring your wedding license (DuPage County) at that time.

- Please do not throw rice, birdseed, confetti, etc. It is hard on our environment and does not clean up easily.
- No food or beverage is allowed in the sanctuary. No alcoholic beverages may be served in the church or on the church property.

### *Wedding Costs*

Church members: \$500

Non-members using our minister: \$1200

Non-members using a guest minister: \$800

Music Minister: \$300 for members or non-members paid directly to Jim Molina.

\* Additional musicians and accompanists at the couple's expense

\* Our sanctuary piano is available for any musicians hired; the organ is not available for use.

A nonrefundable deposit of \$500.00 deposit is required at the time of booking.

Please make checks payable to: First Congregational Church

Final payment is due in the church office 30 days before your wedding.

*If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to call us at 630-832-2580.*

### **First Congregational Church UCC**

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