

Weddings at True North

Hey thanks so much for taking the time to look this over. And congratulations on your engagement! Whether True North is your home church or you're just interested in getting married here, we hope you'll find this information helpful.

If you're a regular here, this won't be a big surprise but if you're new to True North, you should know that we're a pretty unusual church. When it comes to weddings, we actually encourage people to have them off-site whenever possible.

Why? Good question.

A couple of reasons: First of all, our church just isn't very... churchy. No stained glass, no wooden pews, no pipe organ or piano, and the aisle is extremely short. It's just not what a bride-to-be pictures when she dreams of her wedding day.

And secondly, our Sunday services have themes, and on any given weekend, our stage and lobby might be decorated to look like almost anything. We once actually had a wedding during a message series where there was a 7-foot model of a space ship on the stage! The bride and groom were fine with it, but it wasn't exactly... traditional.

Most catering halls have great facilities to have a wedding ceremony, and Pastors Bert, Mike and Chad are all available to do weddings off-site.

If you've got your heart set on having the ceremony at the church, we'll just need to go over a few logistical things with you:

1. All music is done via CD or Mp3 playback unless you are providing musicians.
2. We'll need to know if you'd like to have anyone do a special reading, poem, etc.
3. As far as cost, if True North is your home church –

Use of the building and the ceremony itself is free.

We just ask that you provide a \$50 honorarium for our sound technician and a \$50 donation to cover the cleaning of the church and the restrooms following the event.

If you're having your event off site, there's no charge. In either case, an honorarium for the pastor is welcome but not expected.

We do, however, ask that you cover any travel expenses for the pastor if the wedding is at a distant location.

If True North is not your home church –

In addition to the \$100 mentioned above (for sound tech and cleanup), there is a \$150 charge for the use of the building. Obviously none of these charges apply if the wedding is off-site.

We also ask that you provide at least a \$200 honorarium for the pastor who performs the ceremony, as well as cover any travel expenses for the pastor if the wedding is at a distant location.

4. Pastor Bert is our Senior Pastor and performs many **but not all** of True North's weddings. Pastor Mike and Pastor Chad are also ordained ministers. They are happy to check their calendars for availability if Pastor Bert is unavailable (or if you would prefer them!).
5. The Pastor will probably not attend the reception. Please don't take that personally – they get asked to do a LOT of weddings!
6. We do not require a pre-marital counseling course at this time, but you will need to do have a brief conversation with the Pastor who performs your ceremony, just to discuss the details.
7. We **highly** recommend the following books before you take the plunge! No, seriously, read them. You'll thank us later.

The Five Love Languages, by Gary Chapman

For Men Only: A Straightforward Guide to the Inner Lives of Women,
by Shaunti Feldhan and Jeff Feldhan

For Women Only: What You Need to Know About the Inner Lives of
Men by Shaunti Feldhan

And that's about it! If we haven't scared you away yet and you still want to have one of our Pastors officiate your wedding, fire off an email to: info@truenorthchurch.net and send us the particulars.

Someone will get back in touch with you shortly.

Thanks!

PS - ** Pastor Bert does not do weddings on Sundays. He's pretty busy that day! ☺

*** A quick word regarding the renewal of vows:

Much of what is written above still applies, expect that for vow renewals, people are sometimes less concerned with the environment and the frills.

As long as it's a fairly "low-maintenance" affair, True North may be a suitable environment for the renewal of your vows if you don't have a good place off-site.

As far as fees are concerned, if True North is your home church, there's no charge. If you're a visitor, we ask that you provide a \$100 honorarium for the pastor and a \$50 usage fee for the building.