

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**  
45 West Winter Street  
Delaware, Ohio 43015  
740-369-3175

**WEDDING POLICY**

A wedding in the Episcopal Church is a joyous occasion as well as a sacred time when two people make a lifelong commitment to each other before God with family and friends as witnesses. Christian marriage is a "solemn and public covenant between a man and a woman in the presence of God" (The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 422) and the Christian community in which they agree to live their lives together within the community of believers. The people of St. Peter's Church are honored to be a part of this special time in your life and offer assistance, guidance and support so that your wedding may be a fulfilling experience within the context of the Episcopal worship service known as "The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage" found in our prayer book.

In the Episcopal Church it is required that at least one of the parties must be a baptized Christian, that the ceremony be attested to by at least two witnesses and that the marriage conform to the laws of the State of Ohio and the canons of the Episcopal Church. If either party has been married previously, the Rector must consult with the Bishop.

**CONSULTATION WITH THE RECTOR**

The Rector of St. Peter's Church is responsible for all arrangements for a wedding in this church. Therefore, it is important to consult with the Rector before setting your wedding date, planning music and completing details of the wedding. It is preferable to have several months for preparations, but the Rector must be consulted at least thirty days before the proposed wedding date. A longer time will be needed in the case of a previous marriage to allow the Rector to seek permission from the Bishop. Pre-marital counseling sessions with both members of the couple will be arranged for the purpose of instruction, relationship building and discussing details of the wedding.

Normally, the Rector will be the one to officiate at the wedding, but another Episcopal priest may officiate by arrangements with the Rector. If the Rector agrees, a non-Episcopal clergy member may assist in the wedding service.

**THE WEDDING SERVICE**

The wedding service found in The Book of Common Prayer is the ceremony performed at St. Peter's Church. Wedding at St. Peter's normally include Holy Communion in which all baptized Christians may participate. It seems appropriate that the first action of the married couple after exchanging their vows and receiving the blessing of the church is to participate in the Holy Communion. Communion may be omitted for reasons of sensitivity to the religious beliefs of some family members. On some occasions Holy Communion may be celebrated with the wedding party at the end of the wedding rehearsal.

**MUSIC**

Normally, St. Peter's organist will play for your wedding. Our organist can discuss appropriate music for weddings, including suggestions for preludes, postludes, processional, vocal solos, etc. and will be happy to meet with you and play through some of the music on her list, as well as consider requests you may have.

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**ST. PETER'S WEDDING LIAISON**

After setting your wedding date with the Rector, you will be asked to contact the wedding liaison who will discuss what facilities and services can be offered by St. Peter's. The liaison will be present at both the rehearsal and the wedding to ensure that the wedding runs smoothly.

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography and ideography will be permitted during the ceremony with some restrictions. Professional photographers and videographers are asked to speak to the Rector before the ceremony.

**FEES (Refer to the chart below)**

The Rector charges no fee to members of the parish for services as celebrant or counselor. If you would like to make a contribution to the Rector's Discretionary Fund, it will be gratefully accepted. This fund is used for extra-budgetary expenses to help others in times of special need, frequently for food or lodging. A contribution to the Alter Guild in appreciation for their time and effort will be gratefully accepted. Couples who are not members of St. Peter's will be charged a building fee.

**FEES FOR MEMBERS OF ST. PETER'S**

Rector	No Fees
Organist	\$150.00 minimum fee
St. Peter's Wedding Liaison	\$ 75.00 fee
Alter Guild	Fee based on actual cost of items provided (flowers, candles, etc.)
Reception	Parish hall rental fee

**FEES FOR NON-MEMBERS OF ST. PETER'S**

Rector	No Fees
Organist	\$150.00 minimum fee
St. Peter's Wedding Liaison	\$ 75.00 fee
Alter Guild	Fee based on actual cost of items provided (flowers, candles, etc.)
Building Fee	\$600.00
Reception	Parish hall rental fee

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**WEDDING INFORMATION CHECKLIST**

**KEY PEOPLE**

Rector, The Rev. Charles E. Wilson	740-369-3175 rectorstpeters@verizon.net
Organist Carol Hallenbeck	740-201-3317 cghallen@owu.edu
Wedding Liaison Roberta Clark	740-363-3965

**REHEARSAL INFORMATION**

A rehearsal will normally be held the day before the wedding. The wedding liaison will provide a Rehearsal Information Form, which should be returned one week prior to the wedding. Please bring the following to the rehearsal:

1. Marriage License
2. Fees
3. All members of the wedding party and other participants

**WEDDING DECISIONS**

1. The fellowship room on the main level is available to ladies of the wedding party for dressing and or gathering. Please indicate if you plan to use this room.	Yes	No
2. A room in the undercroft is available for the men of the wedding party for dressing and or gathering. Please indicate if you plan to use this room.	Yes	No
3. Do you plan to include Holy Communion during your wedding?	Yes	No
4. The church can accommodate 200 people with 4 to 5 in each pew. How many pews should be reserved on each side for family and the wedding party?		
5. The Alter Guild can provide alter flowers and pew decorations at your expense or you may use an outside florist. Do you plan to use the Alter Guild?	Yes	No
6. It is customary to leave the alter arrangements for the services on Sunday. Do you wish to leave the alter arrangements?	Yes	No
7. There are decorative metal baskets available to be filled with flowers and used on the doors to the sanctuary and the front doors. Do you want to use them?	Yes	No
8. There is an artificial garland for the railing. Do you want to use it?	Yes	No
9. Candelabras with three candles are available for the windows in the Nave. The candles will be provided at your expense. Do you wish to use the candelabras?	Yes	No

**WEDDING REMINDERS**

1. A center aisle runner may not be used for safety concerns.
2. Rice, confetti and birdseed may not be used after the ceremony. Bubbles and or bells may be used outside the church.
3. Parking places may be reserved at the front of the church by contacting the City of Delaware at least one week prior to the ceremony.