



## “FIT TO BE TIED”

### WEDDING GUIDELNES

**WELCOME!** We are so thankful that God has led the paths of your lives together and brought you to this point of considering (or already planning) your marriage to one another. We celebrate God’s goodness with you and pray He will bless you in every way possible!

Marriage is a relationship that God has created for a man & woman to enjoy for a life-time. There are some very specific guidelines the Bible mentions that we hold to at Creekside and we have added some that we require to the basic scriptural requirements.

In order to be married at Creekside Christian Church:

1. At least one person of the wedding party must be a member in good standing, having signed the Membership Covenant and agreed with our belief statements.
2. Both are to be believers in Christ. 2Corinthians 6:14 teaches that Christians are not be unequally joined with another who doesn’t have a personal faith in Christ.
3. Both must attend the six hours of pre-martial counseling at Creekside.
4. The couple must not be living together. If that is the case, they must separate until the ceremony and commit to chastity.
5. If a divorce has occurred, significant time and healing must be sought out through a program such as “Divorce Care” (a support group ministry of Creekside offered periodically or individually).
6. Ministers of Creekside Christian Church shall only perform ceremonies away from our building that are between a Man and a Woman enjoining and adhering to the scriptural guidelines for Marriage outlined by God in Genesis, and affirmed by Jesus. (Mark 10:6-8)

## **THE BLESSING OF MARRIAGE**

Marriage is mentioned very early in the Bible. Genesis 2:24 says, “For this reason a man will leave his mother and father and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh”. A few verses later, the scripture adds, “and they were both naked and not ashamed”.

In this brief passage, all the foundational requirements for marriage seem to be included. There are four foundational elements: severance, permanence, unity and intimacy. The leaving of one family is followed by a lifetime commitment, which is followed by the lifelong process of oneness, which produces a closeness that cannot be matched in any other earthly relationship.

At Creekside, we believe that God wants us to follow Him as closely as possible in all areas of life and marriage is not an exception. Our requiring couples to live separately before marriage is based upon the teaching in Hebrews 13:4 which says, “Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure.”

It is our belief that the integrity of marriage is at stake. Although we have no intention of “monitoring morality” in this matter, we do require that couples live separately before their marriage primarily to honor God as they enter this holy covenant.

We acknowledge this is certainly a topic where our culture has changed drastically over the years and many people will have a variety of opinions concerning this. Our conviction is that we would rather please God than men (John 12:42-43). However, we would love to sit down and talk with you if you are in this situation.

We pray for God’s best in “your one life together”. We look forward to getting to know you through the pre-marital counseling program. God bless you.

## **CEREMONY GUIDELINES AND FEES SUMMARY**

Basic guidelines for CCC campus include drop cloths under all candles, no birdseed or rice thrown, no alcohol or smoking on the property, all decorations removed immediately after the ceremony and felt clamps only are to be used on the furniture (no adhesives).

### **FEES**

The cost is \$200 to minister for weddings, which includes all pre-marital counseling sessions and minister

Our Building Usage Agreement and our policies, costs and facility considerations. We

ask that you read them carefully before executing the agreement. You must be a member in good standing of Creekside Christian Church, having signed the Membership Covenant and agreed with our belief statements. All marriages shall only be between a Man and Woman as prescribed by the authority of the Bible and the Elders of Creekside Christian Church.

Listed below are the guidelines our church follows for each request received:

1. A rental fee of **\$250.00** is required for the usage of the building for all wedding requests received by the church. This cost allows us to cover the costs of building usage including electricity, audio/visual technicians, maintenance and personnel needed to open/close the building. Additional fees may be applied according to additional needs.
2. A rental fee of **\$250.00** is required for the usage of the building for all wedding receptions held at the church. This cost allows us to cover the costs of building usage including electricity, audio/visual technicians, maintenance and personnel needed to open/close the building. Additional fees may be applied according to additional needs.
3. A 50% deposit is required upon execution of the agreement. The balance must be paid 7 days in advance of the scheduled event.
4. The final decision for usage of our facilities will be at the discretion of church staff and elders of Creekside Christian Church.
5. Bridal showers are allowed with staff permission for members in good standing of Creekside Christian Church, having signed the Membership Covenant and agreed with our belief statements.
6. Wedding and Receptions are scheduled around all church events. We do not allow overlapping of any events that might interfere with any scheduled church event.
7. Creekside Christian Church reserves the right to alter, change or make any adjustments to our written policies at all times.
8. Creekside Christian Church requests that all interested parties prepare to make their requests for building usage as far in advance as possible. We maintain a 3 month (quarterly) list of events. **We cannot make any guarantee that our building can be considered for usage with less than a 3 month notice in advance. Space is limited.**

Some fees may be waived with members in good standing of Creekside Christian Church. Please consult with the Minister about these. Again, thank you for your interest in Creekside Christian Church.

Sincerely,

The Elders of Creekside Christian

I have reviewed the statements above and agree to be governed by all the provisions herein:

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Name (printed)

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Date

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Signature *(I hereby accept my typed name above as my signature)*