

WAUSHARA COMMUNITY CHURCH

WEDDING AND MARRIAGE POLICY

The Purpose of this church in regard to weddings and marriage is to establish stable Christian homes where Christ is honored as head of the home. The following policies are established toward that end.

Because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself, WCC will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Further, the pastors and staff of WCC shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman.

We are happy for you as you prepare for marriage. Marriage is a wonderful idea from the mind of God Himself. The ideal marriage completes a man and women by making them one. It is designed to reflect the relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church. Often times, however, marriages fall short of the ideal. We, at the Waushara Community Church, are committed to doing everything we can to help you establish a stable Christian home where Christ is honored.

1. Weddings will only be conducted for those who have demonstrated the maturity and compatibility to have a stable relationship that honors Christ.
2. In general, no wedding will be conducted sooner than three months after the first conference with the pastor unless wisdom would warrant an exception.
3. A minimum of six to eight hours of counseling sessions (including a marriage inventory and assigned homework) shall be required with the pastor. The pastor reserves the right to decline the date chosen if he feels the timing is improper. A follow-up session will be scheduled six to nine months following the wedding. For couples from this church, but not currently residing in the area, counseling may be arranged with an approved pastor or Christian counselor. He/she shall then certify in writing that the couple has had the required counseling and is adequately prepared and suitable for marriage.
4. The pastor will not knowingly conduct a wedding between a Christian and a non-Christian.
5. The pastor will not knowingly conduct a wedding for a couple living together or sexually active unless they agree to separate and keep sexually pure until the wedding. This is to demonstrate the genuine Christian life as referenced in number 1 and prepare for establishing a stable Christian home.
6. A person or couple who is (are) an integral part of this church fellowship and who becomes pregnant prior to marriage shall be subject to church discipline as outlined in the church by-laws, the object of which is restoration to complete fellowship with God and the Church. A wedding in the church would only be considered if restoration were successful as approved by the elders.
7. A divorced individual(s) wishing to be married must give sufficient information to the pastor to determine that the divorce was either prior to Christian conversion or justified on the ground of adultery or desertion by an unbelieving spouse according to Scripture. Matt 5:31; I Cor 7:12-16; Matt 19: 1-9; II Cor 5:17.
8. Couples wishing to use the church building for a wedding to be conducted by another pastor must generally meet the above guidelines and pay whatever rental fee shall be established by the Board of the Church.
9. Questions related to the above may be directed to the pastor and requests for exceptions must be approved by the elders of the Church.

Marriage is designed by God for one man and one woman for life. It is an honorable and wonderful relationship. Marriage may, however become the source of great pain. That pain is almost always shared by more than just the couple (e.g. children, parents, friends). It is the intent of the above items to honor the Lord Jesus Christ and to offer you the best possible preparation for a marriage that will last a lifetime. May the Lord Bless you as you seek to follow His direction in this most meaningful and important step.

A \$35.00 fee is required for the expense of the materials.

Revised 8/9/15