

There is a MZUMC Agreement to use church facilities with all applicable forms and fees available in the church office or on our web site (www.mzumc.org).



565 N. Cleveland-Massillon Rd. • Akron, OH 44333
330.665.9817 • www.mzumc.org

Weddings at Montrose Zion Church



Wedding Information Booklet

Montrose Zion United Methodist Church
565 N. Cleveland-Massillon Rd.
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“Therefore a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.” --Genesis 2:24

Montrose Zion UMC
565 N. Cleveland-Massillon Rd. • Akron, OH 44333
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Pastor: Michael J. Teston

The Pastoral Staff at MZUMC is available to officiate at the marriage ceremony of those couples who express a serious intention to establish their marriage within the Spirit of Love grounded in the Gospels and teachings of Jesus Christ. To facilitate the plans of your marriage this brochure is made available to you.

All details and arrangements will be made keeping in mind both Christian and United Methodist tradition. Our desire is to ensure that your wedding is a joyous celebration as well as a solemn occasion recognizing the nature of the promises each of you will share before God and those who will witness this celebration. Because of this, the bride and groom are requested to inform all members of the wedding party and guests that they are expected to refrain from alcoholic beverages prior to both the rehearsal and the wedding. Church staff will not perform and will call off any wedding or rehearsal if this is disregarded. Please note that smoking is not permitted in the church and not within 20 feet of any exit/entry door. An agreement to use church facilities must be signed and returned along with a non-refundable deposit. This is available on our web site or in the church office. Deposits must be paid before your reservation can be accepted. Unless otherwise specified, all other fees are to be paid one week prior to the use of the facilities. The fee is considered to be a donation to help recover the costs of maintaining the facility.

The Pastor



The bride and groom should consult with the Event Coordinator well in advance of the wedding date. The pastor's preference is that the couple attend a Sunday Worship Service prior to the wedding (6 months) to begin the initial conversation about the proposed wedding date. Preference will be given to any couple who regularly attends worship at Montrose Zion UMC. Following this initial visit in worship, the date, hour, and elements of the wedding and rehearsal will be set and entered on the church calendar. Pre-marital counseling sessions (2 sessions at least) will also be scheduled in order to facilitate discussion regarding hopes and expectations of both the marriage and the ceremony itself.



The tool used for the premarital counseling is the PREPARE/ENRICHMENT Inventory. It is designed to help the couple develop a strong and growing relationship. Through this inventory, the couple has an opportunity to discover their relational strengths and relational growth areas as well as anticipate future goals as individuals, as a couple, and as a family. It is understood that the Pastor of the Montrose Zion

UMC will officiate at all weddings in the church unless other arrangements are made. If the couple desires visiting clergy to participate in the service, the Pastor at MZUMC must be consulted initially.

Music



The music and musicians are your choice. But if you wish to use the church accompanist the Event Coordinator can put you in touch with that person. Both the accompanist and the Pastor are available for consultation concerning the choice of music. A sound technician is also available for a fee.

Rehearsal



It is expected that the wedding party will arrive promptly for the rehearsal which will usually be 30-60 minutes in length depending upon the size of the wedding party. The Event Coordinator will show the bridal party where they may dress and prepare. The soloist may practice with the accompanist at prearranged times. The bridal party should communicate with and orient their florist, photographer, and/or videographer if they have not yet done so already. The marriage license should be given to the Pastor for his signature in advance of the service. It will be returned prior to or following the ceremony.

Flowers & Decorations



Flowers or other decorations should not be attached to walls, ceilings, upholstery or wood. The bride and groom will be expected to assume responsibility for any damage done to the sanctuary by wires, tape, candles, etc. Decorations, other than flowers, should be approved by the Event Coordinator. It is requested that no rice or confetti be thrown inside or outside the church. Birdseed may be used outside.

Photographs



Pictures may be taken in the sanctuary during the ceremony by either amateur or professional photographers, with discretion and respect for this Holy Event. The Wedding Party should let the Event Coordinator know if there is a desire for the Pastor to be in photographs following the ceremony.