

WELCOME

Vision: Central is a pillar of a spiritually, physically and intellectually healthy community that manifests God's love and justice.

Wedding Guide



CENTRAL

www.centraldenver.com

1660 Sherman Street • Denver, CO 80203

303.839.5500

WEDDING PLANNING

Central Presbyterian Church welcomes the opportunity to perform weddings for Christian couples in its historic church in downtown Denver. Built in 1892, Central Presbyterian Church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. At 17th and Sherman Streets, the Romanesque style building has been called the “noble edifice, which crowns the hill.” The beauty of the sanctuary, with its sun lit stained-glassed windows and hand carved oak pews, is truly inspirational. The “box seats” were inspired by the Broadway Theater, which is where services for the congregation were held while the church was being built.

The first wedding at Central Presbyterian was held on December 14, 1892. It was the wedding of Miss Alice Light and Mr. Robert Collier, who would be married for over 50 years. The Colliers and their children became active members of the church for many years. Their son Douglas and his wife, Mary, were members of Central Presbyterian and medical missionaries in Siam from 1924–1940.

If you are interested in having your wedding at Central Presbyterian, please contact the Wedding Coordinator, Jennifer Hofmann, at 303-902-1592. She can take you on a tour of the church and answer any questions you may have. Central Presbyterian also has available reception facilities. You are also welcome to join us for Sunday Service. Services are at 10:30 AM (September to May) and 10:00 AM (June to August).

CHURCH STAFF

CHURCH OFFICE

Rozolen Stanford
Church Business Administrator
roz@centraldenver.com
303-839-5500

WEDDING COORDINATOR

Jennifer Hofmann
303-902-1592
weddings.jennifer@centraldenver.com

ORGANIST

Rick Seaton
rickseaton@comcast.net

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Steven Burchard
steve@centralchurch.com

MINISTERS

Martin H. Jacobsen
marty@centraldenver.com

Jacqueline Decker Vanderpol
Jacqueline@centraldenver.com

- The Wedding Coordinator is a good source of information and assistance. She will answer questions regarding building use, be present at the rehearsal and wedding, prepare the sanctuary before and after the wedding, and organize the procession of the bridal party.
- The Ministers of Central Presbyterian Church may be available for weddings of non-members. A list of approved ministers is available through the church office.

THE CEREMONY

Christian marriage is celebrated as a service of Christian worship, under the direction of the minister. The marriage ceremony focuses upon marriage as a gift of God and as an expression of the Christian life. Others may be invited to participate as leaders in the service at the discretion of the pastor. The service begins with scriptural sentences and a brief statement of purpose. The man and the woman shall declare their intention to enter into Christian marriage and shall exchange vows of love and faithfulness. The service includes appropriate passages of Scripture, which may be interpreted in various forms of proclamation. Prayers shall be offered for the couple, for the communities which support them in this new dimension of discipleship, and for all who seek to live in faithfulness. In the name of the triune God, the minister shall declare publicly that the woman and the man are now joined in marriage. Other actions common to the community and its cultures may appropriately be observed when these actions do not diminish the Christian understanding of marriage. The service concludes with a benediction.

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

Couples are encouraged to plan for pictures. Photographers and videographers should consult with the presiding Minister to clarify placement of equipment during the ceremony. Posing for flash pictures can be arranged before or after the service. In keeping with the worship nature of church weddings, we ask that photographers and videographers use only natural light during the ceremony to avoid intruding on the service.

CANDLES & FACILITIES

- The Fellowship hall is available for receptions of up to 200 people for an additional fee.
- The Shepler Heritage Center, Choir Room, Chapel, and Parlor are all available for the wedding party.
- Seven-branch candelabras are available in pewter and brass.
- Brass hurricane-lamp candleholders are available for attaching to the pews along the aisle for candlelight weddings. These are appropriate for fall, winter, and early spring weddings.
- All candles, except the Unity Candle, are provided by the church and are included in the fee. The Unity Candle, if desired, should be provided by the couple.

MUSIC

- The couple should contact the Director of Music, Steve Burchard (steve@centraldenver.com) to arrange music suitable for the marriage service. The congregation may join in hymns and other musical forms of praise and prayer.
- Arrangements for use of pre-recorded music and /or microphones must be made with the Wedding Coordinator at least 30 days before the wedding.
- Both the church's organ and its piano are available for use. If you select your own organist, he or she should contact the church's organist, Rick Seaton (rickseaton@comcast.net) for details about operating the organ.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- The Sanctuary will seat 1,000 people.
- Arrangements for Sunday weddings may be made after consultation with the Central Presbyterian Church Minister.
- There are several parking lots within walking distance to the church as well as metered street parking. Metered parking is free on Saturdays and Sundays. Parking is the responsibility of the wedding attendees.
- Rooms are available for the bridal party as dressing or waiting rooms. Upon request to the Wedding Coordinator, the church can be open up to two hours before the ceremony.
- The Shepler Heritage Center, Choir room, Chapel, and Parlor are air conditioned. The sanctuary is not.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the church.
- Rice, confetti, bubbles and bird seed are not permitted in the church.
- The couple should make arrangements to remove flowers promptly after the wedding so the church can prepare for other events.

THE CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AND PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELING

Marriage, a gift from God, has been given to all humankind for the well-being of the human family. Marriage is a civil contract between a woman and a man. For Christians, marriage is a covenant through which a couple is called to live out together, before God, their lives of discipleship. In a service of Christian marriage a lifelong commitment is made to each other, publicly witnessed and acknowledged by the community of faith.

In preparation for the marriage service, a minister shall provide for a discussion with the couple concerning the nature of their Christian commitment, the legal requirements of the state, the privileges and responsibilities of Christian marriage, the nature and form of the marriage service, the vows and commitments they will be asked to make, the relationship of these commitments to their lives of discipleship, and the resources of faith and the Christian community to assist them in fulfilling their marriage commitments. All couples are expected to participate. In the rare event that the minister is convinced after discussion with the couple that commitment, responsibility, maturity, or Christian understanding are so lacking that the marriage is unwise, the minister shall assure the couple of the church's continuing concern for them and not conduct the ceremony.

WEDDING FEE AND POLICIES

The church charges a \$1,500 fee for non-member use of the church, its facilities, and to cover the cost of the minister, organist, wedding coordinator, and custodial services. One-half of the fee (\$750) plus a \$200 refundable damage deposit, is required to reserve a wedding date.

The \$750 fee deposit is non-refundable.

The balance of the fee is due one month before the wedding. The church requires reimbursement, above and beyond the damage deposit, for any damage to the church. The damage deposit will be refunded within a week after the wedding if there has been no damage.

Fill out the Wedding Information and Agreement form found in the middle of this booklet or online, and return it to the Wedding Coordinator, Jennifer Hofmann, with your deposit of \$950 (\$750 non-refundable fee deposit + \$200 refundable damage deposit). The date will be approved and the church reserved on the church calendar. Checks should be made out to Central Presbyterian Church and sent c/o Jennifer Hofmann, 1252 S. Boston Court, Denver, CO 80247.

Church members wishing to arrange a wedding should speak directly to the Church Business Administrator, Rozolen Stanford (303-839-5500).