Wedding Planning Guidelines



First United Methodist Church Palatine, IL

Congratulations on your Engagement!

We share your excitement and happiness as you make your wedding plans and begin the beautiful adventure of marriage! A church wedding is the sacred Christian celebration of your love and commitment to each other and to God, as you ask for God's blessing upon your marriage. At First United Methodist Church, we want to minister to you, through your wedding service. The Wedding Ministry Team will do our best to make your wedding a joyous and God-glorifying day.

This ceremony planning guide will answer many questions as you begin planning your wedding.

We look forward to working with you on this joyous occasion!

Romans 12:10: "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

Welcome to Our Church

First United Methodist Church was established in 1857, the first church in Palatine, IL. As United Methodists we are part of a theological tradition emphasizing God's profound grace, welcome and presence through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

As a congregation we have many ministries to these ends as we reach out into the local community and world to serve. Our church provides ministry for many life events and stages-baptism, children's and youth programs and events, weekly worship, weddings and funerals. Our doors are open to the community and we welcome all who wish to participate in our congregation.

We are located at 123 N. Plum Grove Road Palatine, IL 60067

Phone: 847.359.1345 **Fax:** 847.359.1724

Email: fumcp@comcast.net
Web Site: fumcp@comcast.net

Office Hours: Please check the web site or call the church office for current office hours.

*Pastor and wedding hostess by appointment

Pre-Wedding Planning

Please do not make any vendor or subsequent commitments until your date and time are confirmed by the Wedding Ministry Team.

- 1. <u>Request for information</u>-the church web site has an inquiry form to check on possible dates, or you may call the church office for information
- 2. <u>Secure the Date</u>-Please fill out the form online or request a paper copy from the church office. Return it with a \$200 deposit to hold your date and time on the church calendar. The date will not be secured until the deposit is paid and form turned in. Note: no weddings can be scheduled on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day or Holy Week (Palm Sunday-Easter).
- 3. <u>Meet the staff</u>-Once the date is on the calendar you will be given an opportunity to meet with the pastor and also with your wedding hostess.
- 4. <u>Sessions with the Pastor</u>-The pastor will want to set up sessions to meet with you to plan the ceremony part of your wedding and for pre-marriage counseling and the opportunity to get to know the couples he/she marries.
- 5. <u>Planning with your wedding hostess</u>-The wedding hostess will meet with you to show you the facility and answer any questions you have, and to give you Wedding Arrangements and Ceremony Preference forms to be filled out at your convenience, <u>returned at least one month before the ceremony</u>. She will provide you with her contact information (email is preferred) to reach her if you have more questions or concerns, and to provide contact information for the organist, and wedding bulletin graphic artist if you choose to use this service.

Wedding fees

You will be given a current Wedding Fee sheet when you inquire about weddings at the church.

The <u>Church Member's Fee</u> includes: Preplanning session and church tour with the wedding hostess; opening and closing of the church by the wedding hostess for any deliveries, rehearsal and ceremony; organist and sound technician for rehearsal and ceremony; custodian following the ceremony. There is no charge for use of the church building by members. **Balance of these fees and any optional fees must be paid one month prior to the wedding.** If you are in impoverished circumstances, please speak to the pastor directly.

Our pastors do not "charge" for their ministry, they do it out of love for the congregation and because they feel called by God to bless your union. The honorarium is your love gift to the pastor for the time, energy, planning, and prayer that have been given to you and is not included in the fees. Suggested range is \$250-\$300, payable one week before the wedding.

To qualify for the member fee, one of the following persons must be a current, active member of First United Methodist Church, Palatine, on the current church membership rolls for at least six (6) months <u>prior to reserving a wedding date</u>: the bride, the groom, or their parents. All others must use the Non-Member's Fee.

The <u>Non-Member's Fee</u> includes: Rental use of the rooms listed in <u>Our Facility</u>, the Pastor's honorarium and the services listed in Member's fees above. **Balance of fees paid one month before the wedding plus any optional fees below.**

Additional optional fees

Nursery attendants \$60 for first 2 hours (including 20 minute arrival/set up before wedding)** (Church policy requires 2 attendants, fee above is for 2)

Organist fee to accompany soloist \$25 (in addition to organist fee)

Candelabras \$35 Communion supplies \$10 Program design assistance \$50

Program printing cost of supplies Additional musicians or soloist set their own fees

(**extra hourly charges for time beyond that stated above)

See information below if interested in using church for receptions.







Wesley Center

Our Facility

Our church is Holy Ground and is used by many for the highest of spiritual aims. We appreciate your respect of this sacred place of worship.

Rooms included in rental fee:

Sanctuary

18 pews each side of main floor (36 total)

11 pews in balcony

Approx. seating-360 main floor, 70 balcony

Center aisle 60 feet from base of altar steps to back doorway

Organ and Piano

Kneeling rail available upon request

Adult meeting room (Bride's dressing room) Tables and chairs, full length mirror available (Main floor)

Youth room (Groom's dressing room) (Lower level)

Narthex (receiving area just outside of sanctuary)

Main lobby area

Other Available Ceremony Sites

(Contact church office for current rental rates for these areas)

<u>Outdoor weddings</u>-the church side yard is also available for small outdoor ceremonies from May-September, weather permitting. It is up to the couple to provide their own floral décor and seating for guests. The area is shaded at certain times of the day. You would need to consider a backup plan for inclement weather and a city permit may be required.

<u>Wesley center</u>-seats 80 in chairs on ground level-informal weddings, receptions (no alcohol allowed), rehearsal dinners, wedding and baby showers, small prep kitchen available, chairs and round tables for 6 available.*

Space available for gatherings: (contact church office for current rates and to reserve)

<u>Fellowship Hall</u>-long tables and chairs for approximately 150, kitchen facilities (also no alcohol allowed) with oven and refrigerator. We ask that caterers bring their own serving containers and utensils and return facility to condition as found when they arrived.*

Hostess and custodial fees with additional room use

Wedding hostess for receptions held in the church building includes presence of church liaison at set up, 3 hour reception, supervision of 1 hour clean up \$200 (in addition to preplanning/ceremony fee) Custodian present for 1 hour set up and 1 hour clean up following reception held in the building* \$75 (in addition to ceremony clean up fee)

Facility guidelines:

- Use of rooms does not include permission to move furniture or fixtures. The altar may be moved back slightly <u>by staff only</u> to provide space for pastor and couple. Dining tables and chairs may be moved if those areas are rented, but need to be put back in place <u>by your group, before leaving the building</u>. Adequate protection of furniture, floor coverings and walls must be upheld by all in attendance, and it is your responsibility to inform wedding party, florists, decorators and photographers of these standards.
- 2. Alcoholic beverages and drugs are not permitted in the building or on the grounds out of sensitivity to those with addictions and in acknowledgement that your time with God deserves sobriety.
- 3. Beverages and food are not allowed in the sanctuary.
- 4. Helium balloons, rice, birdseed and confetti are not allowed in the church or on the grounds because they can be hazardous to people, animals and the environment. We recommend the outdoor use of bubbles or ribbon wands for a send off. (makes a very cute picture!)
- 5. We allow artificial rose petals, but please note that they are difficult to clean up and can pose a slipping hazard to guests on certain surfaces. We ask that you limit the amount used, and prefer they are on a secured aisle runner.

Safety and building accessibility:

All areas in the building that would be used for the wedding are wheelchair accessible. Assistance dogs are allowed (pets are not allowed in the building). We have an elevator for going between floors.

There are first aid kits in the church office, the nursery, the kitchen and in each of the classrooms.

We call 911 for fainting and any other emergencies. The nearest fire station is just five minutes from our facility. AED machines are provided throughout the building. We do not expect any trained medical personnel who are wedding guests to provide care as they may not have necessary equipment with them.

Children need to be supervised at all times and are only allowed in the areas used for the wedding.

We ask that you have a plan for securing valuables (purses, wallets) for the wedding party during the ceremony. We have not had these items stolen during a wedding yet, but there is also no one who would be watching them in the dressing rooms during the ceremony.

Your Wedding Professionals

The Pastor

The pastor will set up sessions to work with you to plan the ceremony part of your wedding and for pre-marriage counseling, having the chance to get to know the couples he/she marries, providing support to you and officiating at your rehearsal and ceremony. The senior pastor has final say in approving a visiting or assisting pastor and music selections. The pastor will sign and mail in your marriage license following the ceremony to the county clerk's office.

If you are having a ceremony at another location other than the church, please fill out the inquiry form on the church web site to see if the pastor is available for the date you have chosen. In addition to the honorarium, it may be necessary to provide for the pastor's travel expenses. We allow visiting pastors, but they need to contact our pastor for permission and provide credentials.

Wedding Hostess

The use of a wedding hostess is mandatory to assist the pastor in making sure behind the scenes logistics for the ceremony are carried out, answering questions during the planning process and directing participants at the rehearsal. She is available to answer your questions via email throughout the planning process. She is happy to coordinate with a wedding planning professional if you have chosen to hire a wedding planner. Once you have turned in your Wedding Arrangements and Ceremony Preferences forms to her and have chosen your music with the organist, and ceremony layout with the pastor, she will set up a detailed schedule for the day. Once you look it over and approve, copies will be given to you, the pastor, the organist and our sound technician (plus the wedding planner if you have one) to coordinate our parts in your special day.

Music

A Christian wedding ceremony is a service of worship and only sacred music approved by both the pastor and church organist is used. Our church organist will play for the service, except in the exceptional circumstances where she arranges for a substitute, or if you have chosen to use another instrument. You will be given contact information to reach the organist to set up a time to meet to go over options and your selections. A small fee is added if the organist is asked to rehearse and play for a soloist.

Our organist can arrange for vocal and instrumental soloists if you do not have anyone in mind. Their fees are determined by each musician, but you can discuss your music budget with the organist. You will need to provide copies of the music-one copy for each of the musicians involved. If a vocal solo is selected, please bring a copy of the lyrics to the pastor at one of your planning sessions. Again, we ask that the music selections be sacred in nature, but can be classic or modern.

Sound System

The church has a sound system tech included in the fees. This person will provide microphones for the pastor, bride and groom (if desired) and musicians, do sound checks before the rehearsal and wedding, and assist with lighting choices as well as be at the wedding and rehearsal running the sound board and returning the system to be set up for Sunday morning services. We ask that you not ask to provide your own sound system tech unless ours is not available, as all equipment is a little bit different. Whenever possible, this person can set up cameras to provide a raw footage video tape DVD of the ceremony that you can have edited on your own or provided as extra footage for a videographer that you have hired.

Flowers (please share this information with your florist)

We ask that your florist contact either the church office or wedding hostess to arrange for delivery of flowers, so we know when to expect them (847) 359-1345 or church hostess number. The church doors are usually locked on weekends other than Sunday worship service times, so this is very important so as not to waste their time or have beautiful flowers ruined if they have to wait outside. It is not permissible to put nails, tacks or tape on church pews or other woodwork or walls. Pew decorations can be secured with ribbons or elastic or rubber bands. Aisle runners are also available through your florist or craft shop. The aisle is 60 feet long. Aisle runners can be secured with 2-sided command strips to attempt to avoid tripping.

Photography (please share this with your photographer)

Pre-Wedding photography-if you choose to take pictures before the wedding we suggest that your wedding party be ready to go at least 1-1 ½ hours before the ceremony starts, and photo shoot ends 30 minutes before the service. There are a few areas of the building that make nice photo shoots-the stained glass windows in the lobby and our Wesley Center balcony.

Photos during the ceremony-the wedding is memorable in and of itself. Attempts to "capture" it on film which disrupt the moment are not acceptable. Your photographer is permitted to use flash photography only through the processional. No flash photography is allowed during the ceremony, and no photography whatsoever is permitted during the ceremony by a photographer in the altar area. Flash photography can be used for photos after the ceremony.

We ask that your wedding program include a note that <u>flash photography</u> is not allowed by anyone <u>during the ceremony</u>. You ushers will be trained to inform any wedding guests using flash that it is not permitted. Any cases need to be stored out of the way 30 minutes before ceremony.

Photos after the ceremony-after the service wedding party members and family may return to the sanctuary for photographs as desired.

Videography (please share this information if you have hired a videographer)

Videotaping is allowed from non-obstructive side aisles or the balcony only. The placing of any equipment including microphones must be pre-arranged with the pastor. For safety reasons, all cords

and equipment must be installed or stored properly at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony. All passageways need at least 6 feet of clearance by order of the fire department, so please consider that when locating a place to store cases and gear.

The Worship Bulletin (wedding program)

The pastor will guide you in planning a reverent wedding liturgy. Once the order of worship is set, you can work on a bulletin for the day. It can contain the Order of Worship, the names of the participants, a reminder about flash photography and any other information to assist your guests. Some couples prefer to include their new address and a thank you on the back if there is room.

If you choose, we have a graphic artist who can work with you on designing the bulletin (see our fee page) or you can do the design and layout on your own. We can run your bulletin on our photocopy machine for a nominal cost of supplies or heavier, fancier programs can be done by a local or web based professional printer of your choosing. Church printing of the program would be on heavy bond paper with a choice of white or ecru, or regular bond paper in other colors, or you can provide the church with card stock.

We ask that the final design be delivered to the church office <u>at least a week in advance if we are printing</u>. Remember to have extra copies made for keepsakes and your out of town or homebound guests unable to attend.

Other Considerations

You may wish to consider use of any of the following as your plan your wedding:

- Memorial Table to honor loved ones that have passed on-often a few framed pictures and a vase of flowers set up on a table in the Narthex (entrance to the sanctuary)
- o A Unity candle as part of the ceremony
- o Guestbook or other type of sign in at table
- Signing of the ceremonial marriage certificate at the front of the church following the ceremony as part of your photo shoot
- Bubbles or ribbon wands with bells for send off-please provide a basket for passing out the bubbles or ribbon wands and possibly a friend or relative to pass them out (no rice or bird seed, please)
- o Use of the church's wedding banner

Communion

In planning your ceremony with our pastor, the option to serve communion will be discussed with the Biblical background and significance explained. The United Methodist Church believes in open communion, so communion would be offered to <u>all</u> in attendance at the service. Communion at our church is done using bread and grape juice. You can choose to provide the grape juice and bread yourself or the church can provide them. (see fee page) We will provide the altar cloth and cloth to cover the bread, the serving pieces and gluten free wafers for those who have dietary concerns. Our sanctuary care team or wedding hostess will prepare the communion. If you choose to purchase it yourself, it needs to be brought to the rehearsal.

Marriage Licenses and Marriage Certificates

You will need to obtain a marriage license from any Cook County courthouse. The nearest one to the church is at 2121 Euclid Avenue, Room 238, Rolling Meadows IL 60008.

You may start the application process online, but will need to come to a Cook County courthouse to complete the process. You will need to appear together and fill out or finish the marriage license application. You will need to provide valid identification showing your age. The license fee is \$60. (Please confirm with the county clerk's office if it needs to be in cash or if they accept other forms of payment) Couples must wait at least one day after the license is issued to marry and the license is valid for 60 days. It is effective only in Cook County.

The bottom portion of the license is filled out by the officiant (pastor) and it is their responsibility to mail it in to the County Clerk's office following the ceremony.

Please bring your marriage license to the wedding rehearsal so you don't have to worry about it on the wedding day.

A few weeks after the marriage license is filed you may apply for a certified copy of your marriage certificate also through the county clerk's office. I would suggest getting at least 4-5 copies of the certificate, as multiple copies cost less than reordering. Keep them in a fireproof box or safe location.

The church will provide you with a ceremonial Marriage Certificate that can be signed by you, the pastor and your maid of honor and best man. Some couples choose to have the signing of this certificate as a photo op after the ceremony. This certificate is NOT a legal document, just a keepsake of the occasion.



The Rehearsal

Some couples who are having a small wedding feel it isn't necessary to have a rehearsal. No matter the size of the wedding, there are always logistics and details that can be ironed out with a rehearsal.

- 1. When getting your wedding date on the church calendar it is a good idea to also make sure your rehearsal is on the church and pastor's calendars as well.
- 2. The rehearsal lasts between 1-1 ½ hours, depending on how many questions there are, how many details to work out, how many times we run through the ceremony. Please ask your wedding party to arrive 15 minutes ahead to start on time.
- 3. It is a good idea to bring your **marriage license** to the rehearsal to give to the pastor so you don't have to worry about remembering it the day of the wedding. The officiant is responsible for mailing in the license within a certain number of days after the wedding, so it <u>has</u> to be in the pastor's hands on or before the wedding day.
- 4. You can bring any **decorating and communion supplies** to the rehearsal and either store them to decorate before the wedding or come to the rehearsal a little early and decorate before the rehearsal, **if**

the sanctuary won't be used by another group before the wedding. The wedding hostess can let you know about a week in advance if it is available to decorate at the time of the rehearsal.

- 5. You should bring your **unity candle** to the rehearsal. If you don't wish to leave it out overnight, we can find a place to store it. If the unity candle is provided by the florist it will arrive with the flowers.
- 6. At the rehearsal we will walk through the ceremony a few times until you are comfortable that everyone knows their part. We will talk with the ushers to explain their responsibilities for the day. The sound technician will ask your lighting preferences and microphone preferences for you and the musicians.
- 7. It is a good idea to have your musicians and soloists show up 20-30 minutes before the rest of the wedding party. That will give them time to set up, warm up, possibly practice the music before everyone else arrives. The church organist is paid for one hour of rehearsal time as part of her fees and that time begins at the time the rehearsal is set to begin. Our current organist is also an excellent pianist, if piano music is preferred for any part of the ceremony.

Your Wedding Day

- 1. Arrival of wedding hostess-unlock doors for vendors, musicians, wedding party
- 2. **Arrival of flowers-**be sure to have your florist contact the wedding hostess or church office to arrange a time when the flowers will be delivered to the church. Any decorating can be completed at this time.
- 3. To dress at church or come ready to go-you will decide if the wedding party will arrive dressed in their wedding clothes or will be dressing at the church. Some brides prefer to have hair and make up done in the bridal dressing room, others prefer to arrive about an hour or two before the ceremony dressed and ready for photos. The wedding hostess will have the parking lot doors unlocked whenever you want to get into the dressing area, but may not stay if it is several hours before the wedding. Remember to plan for food for the wedding party. No fainting, please!
- 4. **Arrival of Sound Technician**-the sound technician will arrive to set up lighting and microphones according to your preferences and will do a sound check about 2 hours before the wedding.
- 5. **Arrival of Photographer/Videographers**-these professionals usually arrive at least an hour before the wedding to complete their set up and check lighting conditions, if there are no plans for pre-wedding photos. At times the photographer and the sound technician may have a last minute question or two for you based on the conditions of the sanctuary that day.
- 6. **Arrival of musicians**-the musicians need to arrive at least 45 minutes before the ceremony to get their equipment/instruments set up, cases stored and to check microphones
- 7. **Arrival of family members**-parents and grandparents can wait in the lobby area greeting guests as they arrive or the Mother of the Bride may wish to assist in the dressing room
- 8. **Ushers begin seating guests** about 20 minutes before the ceremony starts. Pre wedding music will begin when the guests begin to come into the sanctuary

- 9. About 10 minutes before the ceremony begins the bride and her dad or escort will move to the church office to wait. The groom and groomsmen will move to the area outside the front of the sanctuary to wait to go in with the pastor (or groomsmen will wait in the Narthex if going in as couples). The groom's parents, bride's mother and grandparents will move to the narthex to begin their processionals and bridesmaids and child attendants will come from the dressing area to the Narthex. Once they begin to walk down the aisle, the ushers will bring the bride and her escort from the office to the Narthex.
- 10. **The bride's processional** begins the ceremony

A Sample Order of Worship

(Your ceremony will be set up according to your meetings with the pastor and may differ from this)

1. GREETING	13. INTERCESSORY PRAYER
2. PRESENTATION	14. EXCHANGE OF VOWS
3. CHARGE TO THE MAN AND WOMAN	15. EXCHANGE OF RINGS
4. DECLARATION OF INTENTION	16. LIGHTING THE UNITY CANDLE
5. RESPONSE OF FAMILIES	17. DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE
6. MOTHERS LIGHT THE SIDE TAPERS ON UNITY CANDLE	18. BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE
7. RESPONSE OF CONGREGATION	19. THE LORD'S PRAYER
8. OPENING PRAYER	20. THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION
9. SCRIPTURE LESSONS	21. HYMN SUNG BY CONGREGATION
10. HYMN SUNG BY CONGREGATION	22. DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING
11. PSALMS	23. PRESENTING THE NEW COUPLE
12. HOMILY BY PASTOR	24. RECESSIONAL

- 1. **Receiving line-**you can choose having a receiving line at the church or just at the reception. If at church, some couples choose to have a receiving line in the Narthex OR the guests stay in their seats following the recessional, the couple returns to stand in the center aisle at the end of each pew greeting their guests as they leave the pews. If there is no receiving line at the church, we will have the wedding party wait in the bride's dressing room following the recessional, until the guests have gone, or for the "get away" below, then return to the sanctuary for pictures.
- 2. The Limousine (or other vehicle) and the "Get Away"- The get away vehicle will be given a place to wait and given a signal to go to a designated spot near the end of the service to pick up the wedding party. Some couples prefer to wait in the dressing room following the recessional, then have guests ushered out, given bubbles or ribbon wands and wait outside by the limousine. The couple runs to the car for an around the block "get away" then return to the sanctuary for pictures. Other couples choose not to have a receiving line or get away after the ceremony, just sanctuary pictures. Guests leave following the ceremony and greet the wedding party limo at the reception site.
- 3. **Photo session**-the sanctuary will be available for photos following the ceremony. You may wish to include the signing of the ceremonial marriage certificate in the sanctuary as one of your pictures with your officiant, the best man and maid/matron of honor.
- **4. Clean Up-**the custodian or wedding hostess will take care of getting the rooms you have used ready for the Sunday morning worship service or church activities following the service.
- 5. Please assign someone-a friend or relative-the task of removing your personal items from both dressing rooms, the guest book and memorial tables, the sanctuary (unity candle, pew bows, music) or any areas where furniture has been moved. If we find something left behind that we think you may want to keep, we will be in touch.
- 6. Marriage License-Marriage licenses in Cook County need only to be filled out and signed by the officiant, following the ceremony. It is the responsibility of the officiant to see that the marriage license is mailed in to the county clerk's office (within 10 days). Our church office will take care of mailing it in if you are married by our pastor. If you are married by a visiting pastor it will be their choice as to whether our office mails it in or if they take care of it.

The wedding hostess will provide you with a copy of your marriage license immediately following the ceremony after it is signed by the pastor. Please note that it is your responsibility to get a <u>certified</u> copy of your marriage certificate from the county clerk's office when it is available in a few weeks. This is sometimes necessary when changing your name, buying a home, getting a REAL ID or new Social Security card or for spousal benefits and pensions.

God's blessings to both of you for a wonderful day!!

- 1. We will be following ALL government restrictions and CDC guidelines in place at the time of your ceremony, so we appreciate your flexibility. This includes correctly wearing masks for protection by guests and all professionals. Ceremony participant numbers, social distancing of wedding party and guests and any other rules for safety in effect will be followed. We do not allow receiving lines inside our building at this time for your safety and the safety of your guests.
- 2. Masks need to be covering the nose and mouth at all times. We will allow the couple to not wear masks. We assume your photographer has a social distance plan in place to take pictures.
- 3. Building use and availability-at this time the building is not open on a regular basis. The church regular staff (pastor, receptionist, building coordinator, choir director and custodian) have the only working keys to the building at the current time. They are all mostly working at home, and are just up at church for very limited hours. A rotation has been set up so the church phone is answered during business hours. Anyone else who needs to get into the building must make arrangements in advance with one of the staff members above. Things may take a little longer to happen at this time.

The restrooms are available, the water fountains are not in use at this time. Hand sanitizer is provided in the lobby area. We use cleaning products and cleaning protocols to sanitize the areas you would use before and after the wedding.

- 4. You can mail in checks for the deposit to hold the date and for any fees. Please do not send cash or leave cash in the church mailbox. You can also call the church office to arrange a time for someone to meet you there or for questions about other forms of payment.
- 5. At the time of this writing our congregation is just starting in person worship and most classes and activities are still online, our Wesley Center and Fellowship Hall are not open for receptions.
- 6. Options to consider-an outdoor ceremony in our side yard (May-early October)
 -having the service streamed online for those who are unable to attend
- 7. Food-please do not provide pre-wedding buffet style foods for your wedding party. Individually wrapped sandwiches, box lunches or snacks are preferred to communal dining at this time. Persons eating should be socially distanced when not wearing a mask and the masks must be put back on immediately after eating. We suggest that the wedding party eat something to not feel faint.
- 8. We are happy to work with you if it is necessary to change to an alternate date. We can see what will work on the church calendar if you need to make a change.
- 9. At this time Cook County clerk's office has waived the 1 day waiting period, the 60 day expiration date and the 10 day return of marriage license to the office. Check their web site for updates.

Your flexibility and cooperation are greatly appreciated as we work together to make this a wonderful day for you. It is very easy for authorities to find photos on social media of your wedding, which could cause issues for all of us, so we ask that you follow the guidelines above. Thank you and blessings!