

Checklist



1. Have the date of your wedding ceremony confirmed with **both** the Pastor and the Wedding Coordinator.
2. Call the Wedding Coordinator (Marlys Jungroth) at (650) 341-7150.
3. Set up your marriage planning sessions with the Pastor.
4. Contact the church organist, Douglas Franks, at (650) 560-4850.
5. Contact your florist with your decoration plans.
6. Schedule rehearsal date and time with the Pastor and Wedding Coordinator.
7. Inform your photographer about church policies.
8. Bring your marriage license to the church five days before the wedding.
9. Give all fees to the wedding hostess by the wedding rehearsal.
10. Please tell the entire wedding party that **you** want to start the rehearsal **on time**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Marlys Jungroth (Wedding Coordinator) at (650) 341-7150.



Your Wedding
at
Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church
600 West 42nd Avenue
San Mateo, California 94403
Telephone (650) 349-0100
Fax (650) 573-9161

In Preparation for Your Wedding



Dear Friends,

The community of faith of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church welcomes this opportunity to be in partnership with you as you prepare for your wedding and marriage.

It is commonplace to say that the day of your wedding will be one of the most important days of your lives. Yet, we live in a culture which has done much to minimize the power and promise of the commitment you now contemplate. During this period of preparation, we desire to take time to contemplate and discuss with you the power and promise of your commitment to one another. We seek to do this through counseling prior to your marriage and the worship we share with you at your wedding.

May the God who has authored the love you now share bless you profoundly during this time of growth and preparation!

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Eric Ackerman

Marlys Jungroth—Coordinator and Wedding Hostess
Pat Duvall—Wedding Hostess

The Ceremony



The wedding ceremony is a worship service which draws attention, not only to the uniting couple, but to the God who graciously creates the couple's love, and desires to sustain it. Although we hope that the service itself will be memorable for its warmth and intimacy, we do expect that it be approached with dignity, reverence and integrity.

Couples will consult with the Pastor about the service. Our services normally last about 30 minutes. All weddings performed before the Altar of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church are to be in keeping with the policies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

If you are planning a reception at Hope



The scheduling of Nielsen Hall for your reception is arranged separately from that of the Sanctuary for your wedding ceremony. Arrangements are to be made with the wedding coordinator.

NO liquor or alcoholic beverages may be served at church receptions.

Counseling



Each couple wishing to marry at Hope Lutheran Church will meet with the Pastor for a series of four counseling sessions, and to discuss the meaning of Christian marriage.

The engaged couple should plan on two months of Christian preparation.

The Minister



For members of Hope, the Pastor of this church will officiate at weddings. If the family desires that another clergy person should participate in the service, this can be discussed with the Pastor and he may then extend an invitation to the other clergy person to assist in the ceremony.

For non-members of Hope, the Pastor of this church is available to officiate or assist at weddings.

Before the Wedding



Once you have decided that you would like to be married at Hope, make an appointment to see the Pastor—the date and time of your wedding will be discussed and confirmed at the first interview.

This preliminary consultation with the Pastor is needed so that the date of your wedding can be written on the church calendar, and it also ensures that the church is free on the day you choose.

The Pastor will want to meet with you both several times before the ceremony in order to get to know you. Feel free to ask questions and to voice any concerns that you might have. You will find that the wedding service is more meaningful when the Pastor knows you and your family, and when you feel comfortable and at ease.

An appointment with the Pastor can be made by contacting the church office at (650) 349-0100. The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and messages can be left on the church voicemail at any time.

Decorations



The family of the bride is responsible for the floral arrangements. Altar flowers may not be shared if there is more than one wedding a day. Arrangements for delivery of flowers must be made with the wedding hostess.

Wedding Photographs



Since the wedding service is a worship experience, no flash photography may be used during the service itself. Flash pictures may be taken only by the professional photographer during the processional and recessional. Time exposure photographs may be taken by the photographer during the ceremony from the choir loft. Any video taping of the ceremony may be done from the choir loft or other approved stationary location, using available light. In no case may such time exposures or video recordings detract from the sanctity of the ceremony itself.

Pre-ceremony photography should be completed at least 30 minutes before the ceremony begins and post-ceremony photographs should be completed 30 minutes following the ceremony.

Members of the Wedding Party



Members of the wedding party are requested to refrain from the use of alcoholic beverages immediately prior to the rehearsal and wedding ceremony. Everyone is reminded that no smoking is allowed in the church building and no alcoholic beverages are permitted on site.

The Wedding Hostess



Hope Lutheran Church has its own Wedding Hostess who must be consulted for all weddings. She will contact the bride as soon as the completed wedding form is received.

Wedding Rehearsal



The wedding rehearsal normally takes approximately 45-60 minutes. Please be prompt. The date and time of the rehearsal must be determined in consultation with the Pastor and Wedding Hostess. All members of the bridal party, including parents, are expected to attend.

The Music



Music, especially that of the organ, is desirable for church weddings. This church has an excellent professional organist, with whom you must make arrangements as soon as possible, when organ music is desired. Music to be used, both instrumental and vocal selections, must be in keeping with the spirit of Christian worship with approval of the Pastor.

Hope Lutheran Church has many fine soloists who are available to sing at weddings and the Bell Choir (Bells of Hope) is also available.