

Weddings at Crossroads



Congratulations!

You have met someone special, grown to love them, and chosen to marry!
"I've found the one my heart loves!" Song of Solomon 3:4

We believe in marriage, and we are really excited for you in this planning stage of your lives. We would like to celebrate with you! Enjoy this time of preparation as you begin to share even more of your hearts with each other.

At Crossroads, our mission is to lead every ONE to discover Jesus, and follow Him fully. The church wants to partner with you as you establish the spiritual, relational, and logistical foundation for your future life together.

We have created this handbook to be a tool for you during the months to come. It contains information that we hope will be of value to you. This summary outlines our wedding process and policy, associated expenses, and details regarding your ceremony, and more. Our goal is to make this a memorable, inspiring season in your life.

Let us know how we can be of further assistance. If you would like to see the facility for consideration, email Tori Jackson
torijackson@crossroadsgrace.org.

Let's begin to plan together!

Wedding FAQ's

Couples who desire to be married at Crossroads or by one of our pastors review the Crossroads Wedding Handbook, complete an online Wedding Ceremony Request Form, and then briefly meet with a member of our pastoral staff. Some topics to be discussed during this session will include spiritual maturity, premarital counseling, current living arrangements, and logistics through the wedding day.

Are we required to attend pre-marital counseling? Yes. All couples will participate in pre-marital at Crossroads (utilizing Prepare/Enrich), or show they have completed a comparable alternative elsewhere.

Is the church available for weddings or receptions? On a limited basis a wedding is able to be onsite at Crossroads, with limited seating and availability.

What if we plan an offsite wedding? The vast majority of wedding ceremonies involving our pastors are conducted offsite in wedding destinations, churches, facilities or homes.

Is Pastor Brian available to officiate my wedding? Pastor Brian's speaking schedule rarely allows him to officiate weddings, but we have several other experienced pastors on staff available to make your ceremony special.

Can a pastor from another church perform the wedding at Crossroads? No.

What are our next steps? Complete the Wedding Interest Form, and you will be contacted to first meet with Pastor Jim Todd (jim@crossroadsgrace.org) to discuss your next steps. Regardless of who might officiate your wedding ceremony, Pastor Jim is the first step in that direction. This meet-up is ideally during a service time on a Thursday night or a Sunday morning. Let's discuss our partnership and desire to help your marriage thrive into your future.

Crossroads Wedding Guidelines

Because we are committed to building strong marriages, we want to share the following guidelines because God has principles for marriage. God created man and woman, and from the beginning intended that they be joined in marriage so that each might give what the other lacked alone. Since God designed the marriage, it makes sense that He knows best how to build a happy marriage. From the Bible we are able to discern principles to be understood and applied if we hope to experience joy and fulfillment in marriage. Ignoring these principles will result in frustration and possible failure in the marriage relationship.

- Couples who desire to be married at Crossroads (or by one of the pastors on staff) participate in premarital counseling which utilizes “Prepare Enrich” to help equip couples to build a lasting, thriving relationship. Ideally we will have three to six months for this process to meet 4-6 times, having time along the way to discuss and plan.
- Scripture in 2 Corinthians 6:14 forbids us to wed a believer and a non-believer, and Genesis 2 forbids us from marrying same gender relationships. Couples being married at Crossroads must be committed to establishing a Christian home.
- In case of pre-marital pregnancy, the marriage may or may not be performed depending on the maturity of the persons involved and other considerations.
- Living together and sexual relations before marriage are at odds with Scripture, and the couple and the pastor will come to an understanding and agreement that will permit a pastor to participate in the union.
- If you would like a pastor to officiate a wedding for your offsite ceremony, the same policies and pre-marital requirements apply for an offsite wedding.

Pre-Marital Preparation

Pre-marital counseling is required for all couples married by a Crossroads pastor. Prepare-Enrich is a diagnostic tool used to help engaged couples evaluate potential areas of strength and growth. Important insights into your views on a variety of issues are gained through the use of this inventory, significantly improving bedrock areas of a couple's lives and futures. You will find that your 4-6 sessions will be a tremendous investment in yourselves. We will provide the link to this online assessment, and we encourage you to take the inventory independent of each other (and avoid answering the "undecided" middle option). The instantaneous results will be available to the pastor or counselor who will lead your pre-marital counseling. Once you've completed the profile, contact Jay Clark at 209.612.1110 to set a first appointment.

Pastors Available to Officiate Weddings

You may request a specific Crossroads pastor to officiate your wedding ceremony. If your specified pastor is unavailable, we will connect you with another available pastor. The following pastors are able to officiate wedding ceremonies, as their schedules allow: Ed Applegate, Brian Hunt, Sean Mahoney and Jim Todd.

Wedding Fees

Off-site

PreMarital Counseling	\$215
Pastoral Honorarium	\$250-400 (more if its out of the area)

On-site

PreMarital Counseling	\$215
CeremonyOnly (up to 150 guests)	\$1,000
CeremonyOnly (150- 600 guests)	\$1,400 additional costs would have to be added if streaming, or adaptations to seating in the auditorium, etc.

Facility Details

- Weddings on site may be booked 6 months in advance.
- Ceremony start times at Crossroads: Fri 4-6pm, Sat 1-3pm.
- The stage will be set from church on Thursday evening, and unable to be disturbed or altered in any way (including closing the curtains).
- Crossroads does not provide any decorations, and all decorations must be approved in advance by the Wedding Coordinator. The wedding party is responsible for decorating and cleaning up.
- Any member of the wedding party who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs during the rehearsal or wedding ceremony will not be permitted to participate in the wedding. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on church property. Smoking is allowed only outside the building.
- All couples getting married at Crossroads will be required to utilize our Wedding Coordinator who is experienced with our protocols, to facilitate the rehearsal and assist with the entire ceremony.

Rehearsal

- Each couple getting married at Crossroads will have one hour scheduled for a rehearsal, taking place the day before the wedding.
- It is important that the entire wedding party be present promptly at the time set for the rehearsal.
- Musicians/vocalists should plan to be at Crossroads 60-90 minutes prior to the ceremony (and they may be contacted by our sound personnel ahead of time to discuss details).
- Your Wedding Coordinator will conduct the rehearsal, which includes a “walk through” of the entire ceremony (seating of parents, processional, service, recessional, etc.), as well as an explanation and review of the wedding day schedule.
- Since the building is often scheduled for more than one event, it is important to begin and end on time. We recommend you advise your families and wedding party members to arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
- The rehearsal is designed to ensure that the wedding party members are comfortable with the logistics of the wedding, and that the wedding ceremony goes smoothly the following day.

Pre-Marital Covenant

We are committed to God's ways in preparing for our marriage. We agree to abstain from sexual intimacy until we share our marriage vows together. We believe it is God's will for our life and marriage to be sanctified, to be set apart for pure and holy living.

It is God's will that you be sanctified; that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable...For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you His Holy Spirit. I Thes 4:3-8

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Heb 13:4

We also understand that God does not look at our past failures. Instead, He looks at us as broken people, who He can make new. With His forgiveness, we can start all over again. As we ask God to forgive us through Jesus, He will see us as a completely new couple.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:9

We seek to trust God and honor Him by upholding His parameters of sexual intimacy within the context of our future marriage. We believe that with God's power, we will be able to keep this covenant and be greatly blessed by our obedience to Him.

Groom: _____ Date: _____

Bride: _____ Date: _____

Pastor: _____ Date: _____