

#### **Congratulations!**

We share in your happi-

ness as you prepare for a new life as husband and wife! Your wedding day will be one of the most memorable events in your life. Our desire is to help you have a memorable and sacred wedding service. We hope the information we provide here will give you a good start in the planning process.

At Highland we believe that

1) Marriage has been instituted by God for one man and one woman, and symbolizes the relationship between Jesus Christ and His Church. (Genesis 2 and Ephesians 5), and that 2) healthy marriages are so important we want to do all we can to ensure couples enter into marriage with a strong biblical foundation. Our policies about weddings come from these convictions.

First, a few principles we follow:

- God's plan for marriage is that you be on the same page spiritually in order to build a firm foundation.
- God puts great emphasis on sexual purity before marriage. Couples we marry must honor this important mandate.
- We're interested in your having a good marriage, not just a good wedding. So we require several counseling sessions before your wedding.
- We desire that you plug into the life of the church as a couple.

You'll see these principles reflected in the policies in this brochure. God bless you as you prepare for a lifetime together with Christ.

## wedding

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### Your Wedding at Highland

Love Purity Relationship Vows Covenant

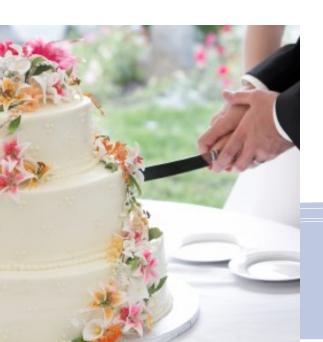


#### **GETTING MARRIED AT HIGHLAND**

Because our objective is to establish Christian marriages in the context of a loving community, weddings are reserved only for individuals who are committed followers of Christ and who are regular attenders of Highland Community Church.

Wedding plans begin by scheduling an appointment. To do that, contact our Administrator, Jolene Fenwick, at jfenwick@highlandcommunitychurch.com to start your planning process. At this first appointment you'll talk about your desires for your wedding, learn about our policies, see the building and look at available dates.

Because Scripture shows that living separately from each other and abstaining from sexual intimacy before marriage are God's design for each couple, we ask that you commit to these principles in respect for God's design, in respect for each other, and in order to get the most benefit from your pre-marriage preparation.



#### SETTING THE DATE

The earlier you can involve Highland in your planning process, the more likely we will be able to find a date the works for you and for Highland. Please bring your options for wedding dates with you to your appointment with Jolene. We will do all we can to work with staff and facility commitments to try to accommodate your plans.

# Love is patient, love is kind.

#### CHOOSING A HIGHLAND PASTOR

You may already have in mind the pastor you want to perform your ceremony. We will do all we can to honor your request.

#### CHOOSING A HIGHLAND CAMPUS

We have four campus locations: Marathon, Merrill, Wausau, and Weston to consider for your wedding.

#### PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING

**PARTICIPATING IN** 

We require couples to participate in 6 hours of pre-marital counseling that explore key issues of marriage including: understanding each other, spirituality, conflict resolution, finances, sexuality and others.

#### GIVING CONSIDERATION

It is customary for the bride and groom to give the officiating pastor an honorarium for the services he provides both in pre-marital counseling and in helping to prepare the marriage ceremony and message. We'll discuss other possible fees and honoraria during the course of planning your wedding.

#### HAVING AN OUT OF TOWN WEDDING?

In certain circumstances, it may be possible for a Highland Pastor to perform a marriage someplace other than Highland. In those instances, please cover his additional expenses including lodging and meals.

#### WANTING TO RENT THE FACILITY & USE AN OUT-SIDE PASTOR?

We are not able to accommodate weddings for those outside the Highland Church body and/or to rent the facility for weddings using only an outside pastor due to facility and schedule constraints.



If there are circumstances that you think merit special consideration, please explain those things in your first appointment with Jolene Fenwick