

# westminster

---

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### WEDDINGS AT LIVINGWATER

Thank you for your interest in celebrating your wedding at LIVINGWATER: THE CHAPEL AT WESTMINSTER PARK (a ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC)).

We are glad that you are considering LIVINGWATER for your wedding day, and we look forward to walking through this process with you! To be married at LIVINGWATER, there are a few steps:

#### OVERVIEW OF A CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AT WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WPC believes that a wedding ceremony should be conducted, in its entirety, in the spirit of a worship service. The chapel is a house of God; therefore, the rehearsal and the ceremony must be dedicated to the worship of God in Christ Jesus.

In Genesis is says, " .. a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24, NIV). The joining of a man and woman in marriage is the foundation of God's plan for His people and His world. Christians should marry in the Lord and in a Christian church. It is, therefore, fitting that a minister of the Gospel solemnizes their marriage and that special instruction be given to the couple to prepare them for a life together that is fulfilling to them and that is pleasing and glorifying to God. In order to assist you in planning your wedding and in preparing for your life together, WPC has developed and adopted the policies and guidelines that are outlines in this handbook. At WPC, we believe that God wonderfully and unchangeably creates each person as man or woman (Genesis 1:27, Psalm 139:13-14). These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Ephesians 5:22-33). We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning, namely a covenant relationship, sanctioned by God, joining together one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as explained in Scripture (Genesis 1:22-25, Matthew 19:1-6, Hebrews 13:4). While we welcome all people into our church, in the name of Christ, WPC and its staff will only perform, participate in, or host marriage ceremonies between a man and a woman who understand, agree with, and affirm that their marriage aligns with WPC's marriage policy.

The following policies for the use of LIVINGWATER regarding weddings reflect the policy of the Session, the governing body of the Church.

It is the desire of the Session that marriage services performed at LIVINGWATER be meaningful so that a couple may look back upon their marriage at with joy and gratitude.

**LIVINGWATER** may be available for weddings (in prioritized order), when:

1. Both parties are current members of Westminster Presbyterian Church

2. One party (either bride or groom) is a current member of Westminster Presbyterian Church. The other party must be a member in good standing of a Bible believing Christian Church.
3. One party is child or grandchild of a current member of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Both parties must be members in good standing of a Bible believing Christian Church.
4. One party is a family member of a current member of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Both parties must be members in good standing of a Bible believing Christian Church.
5. One party is a member of another PCA Church. The other party must be a member in good standing of a Bible believing Christian Church.
6. Both parties are members in good standing of a Bible believing Christian Church.

## **AVAILABILITY**

### **Westminster Members:**

Current members of Westminster (i.e. bride and/or groom or parents) may reserve LivingWater at anytime which does not conflict with a previously planned and recorded Westminster ministry event.

### **Non-Members:**

Those who are not members of Westminster (i.e. neither the bride, groom, nor their parents are members) must wait until 6 months prior to the preferred wedding date to reserve LivingWater Chapel.

## **MINISTER**

Weddings at LivingWater must be officiated by an ordained minister in a Bible-believing church. It is your responsibility to contact the minister of your choice. Any pastor ordained in the PCA may perform the ceremony. A pastor or minister from another Bible-believing denomination must complete the Guest Officiant Request Form for review and approval.

## **RESERVATIONS**

Reservations should be made for the wedding by contacting the Church Business Office and completing a Wedding Request form. Dates cannot be calendared until the form is completed. If any change is made in the time or date of either, please notify the Church Business Office immediately.

## **FEES**

**Westminster Members:** \$500 + \$100 refundable deposit

**Non-Members:** \$1,000 + \$100 refundable deposit

Parties are responsible for their own set-up and clean-up.

The refundable \$100 damage deposit will be required at the time of scheduling the wedding. The damage deposit will be returned to the bride after the wedding if there is no damage of the facilities by the caterer, florist or guest, etc.

## **PARKING & SECURITY**

Parties are welcome to use the designated parking lots. Parties are responsible for their own parking and security arrangements.