

Door Creek Church Wedding Guidelines

Door Creek Church has established the following guidelines for couples seeking to be married by or at this church:

Church Family Support and Accountability

Because we believe marriage has the best chance of blossoming and being nourished in a spiritual family where there is love, encouragement, support and accountability, only couples who attend and participate in Door Creek Church can be married here. Designated pastoral staff must approve rare exceptions.

Spiritual Oneness in Christ

God calls Christians to experience spiritual oneness in marriage. It is his protective love expressed in practical form. He does so for several related reasons including the following:

- so that both partners can build their marriage using a shared biblical blueprint
- so both partners can, through prayer, tap into a common strength in the face of inevitable adversities
- so that children will have the opportunity to be raised by parents who share, teach and model the same biblical values

Marriage Preparation

Marriage preparation at Door Creek Church is designed to help prepare couples for marriage as well as for a wedding and normally takes at least six months to complete. It is prerequisite to being married at Door Creek Church and must be provided by, or in exceptional cases, approved by the pastoral staff.

Sexual Integrity

Heterosexual union is a God-given and essential part of marriage intended to *follow* rather than precede a wedding ceremony. Couples seeking to be married at Door Creek Church will agree to live celibately—and we strongly urge apart—from their entrance into wedding plans with Door Creek Church until the day of the wedding ceremony.

Divorce and Remarriage

God is the wonderful Counselor for broken marriages as he is for broken lives. While divorce always stems from sin, it is not necessarily sinful. Remarriage is permissible in certain circumstances. See the *Door Creek Church Statement Regarding Divorce and Remarriage*.

Questions regarding the wedding guidelines should be referred to the church office.

* * *

If you agree to the above guidelines, please acknowledge your agreement by signing below. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the termination of a contract with Door Creek Church at the discretion of the officiating pastor.

Signature of Groom

Signature of Bride

Date _____

Date _____