



RED DEER LAKE
UNITED CHURCH



WHEN THERE IS A WEDDING TO PLAN

At Red Deer Lake United Church, we hope that these comments will be helpful to you as you consider plans to be married.

A Sacred Occasion



Weddings at Red Deer Lake United Church are sacred occasions where our faith in the presence of God's Holy Spirit is reflected in the service. We therefore believe it is important that there be a meaningful connection between faith of the couple, their spiritual understanding of marriage, and what our congregation believes and stands for. Couples who may legally be married according to the laws of Alberta may apply to the Minister of this church.

Arranging a Date for the Church and the Minister

An initial wedding inquiry can be made by contacting the Church Office by phone or email. When calling after regular Office hours, please leave a message. Available wedding date will be made at this time. The booking will only be finalized after the couple has met with the Minister and a \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is made through the Church Office.

The Church Secretary will assist in the coordination of the wedding service with the couple and the various options will be explained.

The couple will be encouraged to share any ideas or suggestions about the Order of Service with the minister.

Please note: The Minister of Red Deer Lake United Church will preside at all weddings of the church, except under special circumstances where he invites a guest minister to participate.

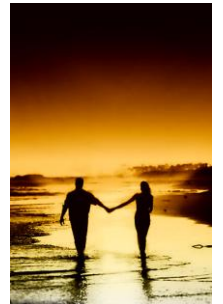
Preparation

Many premarital couples spend a great deal of time, energy and money on their wedding ceremony, which lasts a few hours.

However, they often invest little time building relationship skills that will help them have a more satisfying marriage. Issues such as finances, children, leisure time, roles and the division of power and responsibility are key sources of conflict.

As a Christian Faith Community, we are committed to the care and support of a couple by ensuring some form of marriage preparation/counseling. This may involve your attending a marriage preparation course outside the church (such as the Calgary Presbytery's "Marriage Preparation Seminars"; for more information go to www.pastoralcareunited.ca or call 403-294-0378. You may also take a counseling course at a location convenient for you. Upon completion of a Marriage Preparation Course, a certificate or letter is to be submitted to the Church Office.

In Canada, one of the most useful and exciting ways a couple can address issues and help get their marriage off to a good start is to fill out a questionnaire called PREPARE which can help couples clarify their expectations of themselves and each other. It also helps to start talking about their differences before they lead to ineffective communication patterns. PREPARE is not a test. The computer scored questions can help couples identify the strong points in their relationship and bring areas that need work out into the open for discussion.



Attending Red Deer Lake United Church

Marriage in a church is a Christian worship service. In order to become more familiar with how we do worship at Red Deer Lake United Church and to experience what it is to be part of a Christian community, couples are encouraged to attend our Sunday worship service, which is held at 10:30am.

Marriage License

A Marriage License is required for all weddings. It is the responsibility of the couple to provide the License to the Church Office no later than one week prior to the wedding. A Marriage License can be purchased at any Alberta Registry Office.

Two witnesses are required to sign the legal documents. They must be at least 18 years of age.

Music

The RDLUC Music Director can be hired as the pianist and/or soloist. Included in the fee, she can provide assistance in music selections to be played at your wedding. An initial meeting with her should be scheduled three months prior to the wedding date to ensure availability. The Music Director can be contacted through the Church Office.



You may also provide your own musician(s). It is also possible to have recorded music during the service. Any recorded music must be submitted to the Church office one month prior to the wedding for a sound test.

Sound Technician

A sound technician is required for weddings held in the Sanctuary and will be booked through the Church Office.

Wedding Hostess

Our church Wedding Hostess is required to:

- Assist the Minister
- Open and close the church
- Give direction in regards to decorations
- Help make everything run smoothly

Flowers and Decorating

Flowers and decorating are your responsibility and the Wedding Hostess is available to give direction in this area. It is the responsibility of the family to remove the flowers and clean the sanctuary or chapel of decorations after the wedding.

Part of the wedding service may be the lighting of a "Unity" candle at the end of the service following the signing of the register, which takes place on the Holy Table. Parents may light candles at the beginning of the service.

Rehearsal for the Ceremony

A rehearsal before the wedding service is important and is booked at the same time as the wedding date. The wedding party, including ushers and parents, are encouraged to attend.

Photographs

Pictures may be taken during the processional, signing of the register and the recessional. Pictures



are not permitted during the actual ceremony except by the designated photographer and then only without flash. Video taping of the wedding is permitted.

The Cost

There is a fee associated with this ministry.

Sanctuary	\$ 300, or
Chapel	\$ 200
Pianist	\$ 150
Soloist	\$ 150
Pianist/Soloist	\$ 250
Sound Technician	\$ 75
Wedding Hostess	\$ 75
Custodian	\$ 75
Minister	\$ 200

The \$100 non-refundable deposit is to be made separately at the time of booking and will be deducted from the overall cost. The Church Secretary will discuss the fees specific to your wedding service planned at Red Deer Lake United Church. All of the above may be looked after in one cheque made payable to Red Deer Lake United Church.



Red Deer Lake United Church

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