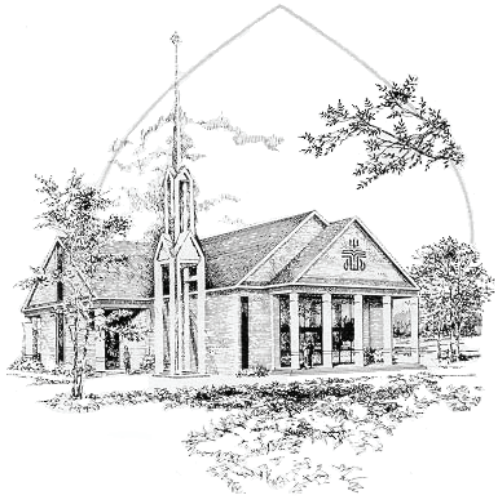


SEVEN OAKS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WEDDING BOOKLET



530 St. Andrews Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29210-4517

803 772-1761

“Marriage is a gift God has given to all humankind for the well being of the entire human family. Marriage is a civil contract between a woman and a man.

For Christians, marriage is a covenant through which a man and a woman are called to live out together, before God, their lives of discipleship.

In a service of Christian marriage, a lifelong commitment is made by a woman and a man to each other, publicly witnessed and acknowledged by the community of faith.”

The **Book of Order**: W-4.9001



Dear Friends:

It is our hope that your wedding in Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church will be a memorable day in your life; that its beauty and inspiration will linger and give strength for a lifetime.

This booklet explains the traditions and practices of our church as they relate to the Service of Christian Marriage. We trust that those who are planning a wedding at Seven Oaks will find this booklet helpful.

Your wedding does not have to be elaborate to be meaningful and beautiful. True meaning and beauty lie in the spirit and attitude of those who take part.

A couple's marriage is "in the Lord" when they seek to include God's reconciling love and grace in their lives.

Sincerely,

*The Session of
Seven Oaks Presbyterian
January 19, 2003*

WEDDINGS AT SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN

The wedding requirements of Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church are presented in this booklet. Please follow these to make arrangements for your wedding. An interview with our Pastor must be arranged to discuss your desire for a Christian marriage. A series of counseling sessions will then be scheduled.

TO BEGIN

The first step in planning your wedding at Seven Oaks Presbyterian is to schedule an initial wedding conference with our Pastor.

SANCTUARY FELLOWSHIP HALL AND FACILITIES

The use of Fellowship Hall and/or our kitchen for either the Rehearsal or the Wedding, must be scheduled through the church office.

OUR MINISTER'S ROLE

One of our ministers from Seven Oaks Presbyterian is expected to officiate. Our Pastor will also approve the order of worship and the music.

If there is a desire for another clergyperson to officiate or participate, you must confer with our Pastor. If your request is approved by Session, an invitation will then be extended to that person.

YOUR MARRIAGE LICENSE

Your marriage license must be in the hands of the minister before your wedding can be performed.



REMEMBER
TO BRING YOUR MARRIAGE
LICENSE WITH YOU TO YOUR
WEDDING REHEARSAL!

DATE AND TIME

Your wedding date, wedding rehearsal, and a time to decorate the sanctuary, must all be approved by the minister. The dates and times will then be placed on the church calendar to avoid conflicts.

WEDDING HOSTESSES

Seven Oaks Presbyterian provides the services of a Wedding Hostess for its members. Our hostesses are available to assist your wedding party at both your rehearsal and your wedding.

A Wedding Hostess will be in touch with you after you have scheduled the date for your wedding.

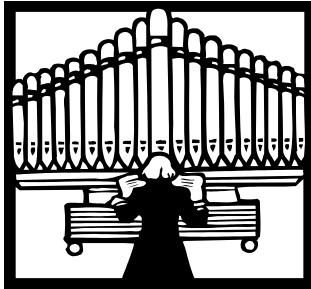
OUR SOUND TECHNICIAN

Our Sound Technician will be present for both your rehearsal and wedding ceremony. It is the responsibility of the technician to make adjustments on the sound system for all microphones used by our Pastor, the speakers, soloists and all musicians. An audio tape copy of your wedding ceremony will be provided for you as part of this service.

YOUR WEDDING REHEARSAL

We feel your rehearsal is an important part of your wedding. In fairness to all, we ask your cooperation in making sure **your entire wedding party is present and on time.**

Everyone involved should remember that they are in a holy place, dedicated to the worship of God, and conduct themselves accordingly.



TOBACCO & ALCOHOL

Smoking in all church buildings is prohibited!

No alcoholic beverages may be served or consumed on church property.

A member of the wedding party will not be permitted to participate in the wedding if he or she is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

YOUR WEDDING DAY

Our Wedding Hostesses will be available to all bridal party members, helping them with flowers and any problems that may arise. They will coordinate the wedding procession and make certain that everything proceeds smoothly. If you desire, our minister will be happy to remain robed after the service for your photographer.

Our church Library also serves as our Bride's Room where the Bride and her attendants may dress and gather before the service. A full length mirror is available.

The Groom and his attendants gather in the Choir Room.

Before leaving the church, please remove all your personal belongings from the church. We ask you to pay particular attention to the Bride's Room and the Choir Room.

No rice, confetti, bird seed, etc. is to be thrown in the church, in any of the campus buildings, or on the church grounds.



PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

Flash pictures are not permitted during the ceremony. A wedding is a religious worship service and flash photography is not appropriate.

Your professional photographer may take flash pictures during the processional and recessional.

The Bride and Groom need to advise their photographer, their family and their friends of this firm policy.

Video cameras are only permitted in the balcony. There are no exceptions.

All pre-wedding pictures taken in the Sanctuary must be concluded thirty minutes before the service starts and must not interfere with instrumental or solo rehearsals.

All personnel are expected to dress appropriately.



FLORAL DECORATIONS

The Bride's family is responsible for notifying the florist of the following:

- Seven Oaks Presbyterian does not provide flower vases, candelabras, pew candlesticks, unity candles or candle holder, or a kneeling bench.
- The pulpit is not to be moved or decorated.
- The Communion Table and Baptismal Font may be moved but not hidden from view or decorated. The pulpit pews may be removed.
- Decorations may not be attached to pews, furniture or walls by pinning, gluing or nailing. **Only** dripless candles are allowed. Protection of the carpet must be considered at all times.
- The Bride's family is responsible for making sure all flowers and decorations are removed after the service.
- The Bride's family must contact the church office if you wish to leave any flowers in the church for Sunday Services. This should be done as soon as possible.

MUSIC

Your wedding ceremony will be a religious Service. Therefore, musical selections for use in the ceremony should be of a religious or spiritual nature. Secular/love songs are considered inappropriate for a wedding service, but could certainly be used during receptions and dinners.

Should you have any special requests for musical selections to be performed as pre-service music or during the wedding service, please contact the Pastor, Organist, or Director of Music for approval.

The use of an organist other than our own church organist is permitted with the approval of our organist. This can usually be taken care of by phone or brief appointment.

Selection of music should be finalized at least four weeks prior to the wedding service. Contact the church organist directly to arrange a mutually agreeable consultation date and time.

The organist must be provided with all requested music that is not in his personal Library.

The use of photocopied music is not allowed.

If your wedding includes
a soloist, instrumentalist, or both,
please note that:

* All contracting with soloists and/or instrumentalists is the responsibility of the Bride and Groom. Please contact them directly to choose the selections of music they will perform.

* No later than 4 weeks before the wedding, send your selections, copies of the music, and soloists' name, address and phone numbers, to Dr. Lloyd Pilkington at the church.

* Please inform any soloists or instrumentalists that all rehearsals will be 30 minutes before the wedding rehearsal, unless otherwise arranged. They should contact the organist if other arrangements are necessary.

Scheduling of pre-wedding pictures should be included on the Church Calendar to avoid any conflict with music rehearsals before the wedding.

All music planning and questions can be directed to Dr. Lloyd R. Pilkington, Organist. He can be reached by leaving a message at the Church (803-772-1761) or by calling 803-750-0830.

WEDDING FEE SCHEDULE

A. Minister	No Charge
B. Organist	\$200.00
C. Sound Technician	\$50.00
D. Sexton Sanctuary	\$200.00
Fellowship Hall Rehearsal Dinner	\$50.00
Reception	\$100.00
E. Church Wedding Hostess	No Charge

F. Additional fees may be required for unusual times, staff vacancies, or special circumstances.

**ALL FEES NEED TO BE PAID AT LEAST ONE
WEEK BEFORE THE WEDDING**

SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
530 ST. ANDREWS ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29210-4517
803-772-1761

Love is patient,
Love is kind.
Love does not envy,
Love does not boast,
Love is not proud.
Love is not rude,
Love is not self seeking,
Love is not easily angered,
Love keeps no record of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil
but rejoices with the truth.
Love always protects,
Love always trusts,
Love always hopes,
Love always perseveres.
Love never fails.

I Corinthians 13:4-8a



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