

# Marriage

*United in Christ*

## **A Message from your Pastors:**

Congratulations. We are committed to partnering with you to ensure your wedding is an experience that will enhance your relationship with God, with each other, and with your family and friends.

We believe that God has intentionally designed you as man and woman to be united as husband and wife. Your marriage is a beautiful picture of the love story that God has with His entire church. A love story of devotion and sacrifice, commitment, and communication. Your marriage is a living witness of God's love and grace.

Because we love God, we also love you and are committed to ensuring that your marriage service will be a biblical service that shows God's passion, your love, and His commitment to being with you every step of the way.

As your pastors, we are committed as well to being here to support you spiritually, physically, and emotionally. If there is anything we can do to support, encourage, and equip you and your marriage and family life, do not hesitate to contact us. We believe God put all of us in each other's life for great purpose together to transform lives by being reliant, authentic, courageous and generous.

Congratulations and we are excited to see God working through each of us together.

Serving Jesus Together,

Pastor Greg Griffith

Pastor Leroy Gerner

Pastor Roger Theimer

Pastor Mark Zehnder

On behalf of King of Kings, congratulations on your upcoming wedding! Your wedding is one of the most joyful occasions of your life, and we are honored to be a part of this special event. We are committed to building strong marriages on a Biblical foundation. We have prepared this booklet to help your wedding be an occasion to celebrate God's love and to acknowledge Him as the source of love, and to help your wedding ceremony go as smoothly as possible.

While marriage is a lifelong journey of joining two lives together, the wedding ceremony is the event that begins that journey. A Christian wedding acknowledges marriage as a covenant relationship: a lifelong commitment to live together as husband and wife. A Christian wedding is an act of worship before God in which family and friends gather to praise God for His grace and love expressed through marriage and to witness your marriage vows before God.

The love of God, as experienced in our personal relationship with Jesus, becomes the foundation for giving and receiving human love in the covenant of marriage. Jesus Himself is the center of your bond. It is Jesus' love which makes your marriage strong and resilient. This is the marriage relationship King of Kings Church upholds when we perform wedding ceremonies.

Couples who desire to be married at King of Kings Church, or by one of our pastors, will have an initial consultation with a King of Kings church pastor. He will talk with you about your personal relationship with Jesus. If you're not sure about this relationship, let him know. He can answer your questions and share with you from God's Word how you can be sure of your salvation: knowing that everything is right between you and God and that your eternal future is secure.

King of Kings Church upholds a Biblical understanding of marriage. We believe that marriage is a sacred union of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24-25), and that God gave marriage as a picture of the relationship between Jesus and the Church (Eph. 5:32).

Finally, trust and honor God by staying within His parameters of sexual intimacy in marriage. This intimacy is reserved for husband and wife alone. We believe that with God's power, you will be able to keep this covenant and be greatly blessed by your obedience to Him.

We are very interested in helping you experience all that God has for you in your faith and marriage.

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## Definitions

There are terms used in this booklet you may not be familiar with. Below is a very brief description of who the various people are that will be involved in helping make your wedding a memorable and joy-filled experience.

**Officiating Pastor:** The pastor on staff at King of Kings who will perform your wedding ceremony.

**Worship Leader:** The person on staff at King of Kings who oversees all music selections and can assist you with planning music for your ceremony. There is also a list of soloists who are available upon request.

**Wedding Coordinator:** This is the person on staff at King of Kings who schedules the wedding, makes necessary building reservations, meets with you to review procedures and guidelines, and answers your questions. This person also assigns the wedding host to assist you with your wedding rehearsal and ceremony.

**Wedding Host:** This is the person assigned to be the church liaison and to assist the Pastor. This person is not a Wedding Planner. The Wedding Host will conduct the wedding rehearsal and direct the wedding itself. They will be present at the wedding to answer questions and direct people.

**Sound and AV Technician:** This is the person who runs the sound and audio-visual equipment used in the Worship Center and The Haven. They will also coordinate the livestream, if requested.

## Scheduling Your Wedding

### Pastors

Since we have more than one pastor at King of Kings, you are free to choose which pastor you would like to officiate your wedding. The wedding coordinator will contact the pastor you have chosen and confirm his availability. If he is not available, the wedding coordinator will contact you for your second choice.

### Available Pastors Include:

Pastor Greg Griffith- Lead Pastor

Pastor Roger Theimer- Pastor of Faith Formations & Director of Global Missions

Pastor Leroy Gerner- Pastor of Care Ministry & Director of The CORE

\*Please note that our pastors may not be able to confirm until four (4) months prior to your wedding date. However, we do guarantee we will have a pastor available on the date of your wedding.

The Wedding Coordinator will then schedule a time when she can meet with the two of you. At this meeting she will review wedding guidelines, marriage preparation requirements, and details pertaining to the wedding day, as well as answer any questions you may have.

Next, a wedding agreement will need to be completed and you will pay a deposit of \$100.00 to reserve the space for your wedding, which is refundable if all guidelines are followed. You will also pay \$150.00 for the Prepare-Enrich assessment and classes, for a total of \$250.00 at the time of signing the agreement.

You will then register to attend one of our pre-marital classes. You are also responsible for meeting with the Pastor. You should arrange this appointment as soon as possible after the wedding coordinator has confirmed your ceremony. Call the church office at 402.333.6464 to make your appointment at least two months prior to your wedding.

## Marriage Preparation

Couples will typically spend as much as 200 hours or more – and thousands of dollars – investing in and preparing for their wedding day. It's one of the most significant moments of your life, and we hope that you and everyone who attends your wedding will remember that day with nothing but fondness and delight for the rest of your lives. King of Kings Lutheran Church has a responsibility to provide you with sound biblical counsel on which to build your marriage

At the same time, your wedding is but a day and your marriage is a lifetime. We are fully committed to assisting you in establishing a healthy, life-long and Christ-centered marriage. All couples who are married at King of Kings are required to participate in the following steps of marriage preparation:

- Complete an online couple assessment (Prepare-Enrich) and discuss it in several private sessions with a mentor couple assigned to you. These mentor couples have been chosen because their lives reflect faithfulness to God and a deep and abiding love for each other. We confidently promise that you will treasure for the rest of your lives the sessions you have with your mentor couple.
- After you have completed the on-line couple assessment, you will then meet with the Officiating Pastor. You will contact the church office at 402.333.6464 to schedule the appointment.
- Prepare to Last: This is a marriage preparation course consisting of eight sessions with other couples. Since these classes focus on the Prepare-Enrich couple assessment that you completed online, and discussed with the pastor or mentor couple, you will want to take the assessment and begin the mentor relationship before the first class, if possible. These classes are usually offered at church on eight consecutive Wednesdays or Sundays. These sessions deal with issues that inevitably surface in marriage such as finances, communication, and conflict resolution.
  - The wedding coordinator will notify you of the dates of the next class and can assist with registration.
  - The cost for the 8-week pre-marriage classes, mentoring, and assessment is \$150.

We believe these steps are **very important** in helping you prepare yourselves for a God-pleasing, rich and happy marriage and that these preparations will be of great benefit to your relationship and to the wedding planning process.

# Facility Usage at King of Kings

## Ceremony Venues

### **Worship Center:** 800 Seats

The Worship Center is our largest venue for weddings.

\*Note: Weddings held in the Worship Center on Saturday evenings must be scheduled to start by 5pm.

### **Haven:** 200 Seats

The Haven is a smaller venue and great for small, more intimate ceremonies. You can seat up to 200 people.

### **Courtyard:** 40 Seats

The Courtyard is an outdoor venue for smaller weddings.

\*You will find pictures of the venues on the next page and a map of the building at the end of the manual.

## Reception

If you are considering having your reception at the church, please discuss options and fees with the wedding coordinator.

## Equipment Policy

Equipment usage and movement of equipment must be completed by a facilities maintenance individual at King of Kings. Requests for specific items need to be cleared by the wedding coordinator in advance. Musical equipment and sound equipment must be handled by the worship leader or sound technician only. Please take the time to think through your needs for your wedding in advance and plan your room reservation accordingly.

## Substances Policy

Our church facility and property are smoke-free environments (this includes the courtyard). Alcohol, non-prescription drugs, or substances are not allowed in the building or on church property. Demonstration by the bride, groom, or wedding party of being under the influence of alcohol or non-prescription drugs/substances on church property and/or in the possession of the same, put himself or herself in jeopardy of having the wedding canceled. This is a policy established by our Board of Lay Ministry for the safety and well-being of everyone involved.

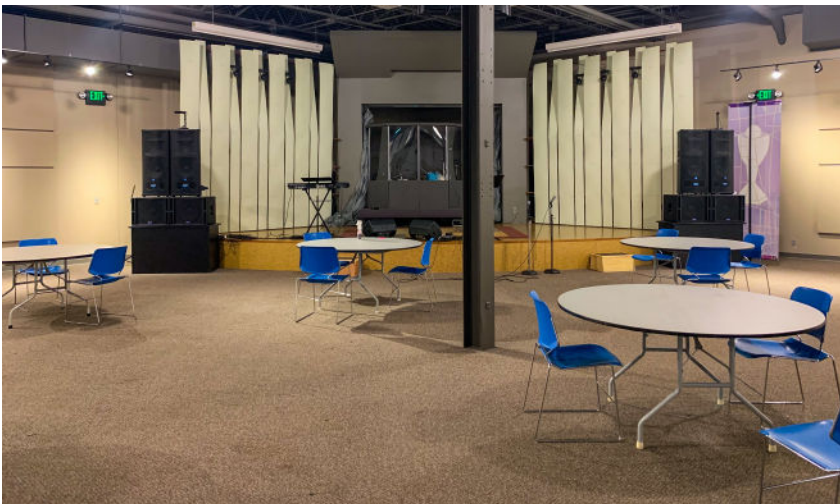
## Off-Site Weddings

If you are planning an off-site wedding, and would like one of our pastors to officiate, please contact the wedding coordinator to go over the details. The pastor's fee for off-site weddings is \$175.00. You are still required to go through all the pre-marital classes/counseling and have a wedding host from King of Kings (fee is \$150.00).

## Worship Center



## Haven





Courtyard



# Preparation & Set Up

## Rehearsal

If you would like to have a rehearsal, you can schedule the venue and personnel with the Wedding Coordinator. If you require certain personnel (pianist, tech, etc.) to be at the rehearsal, there will be an additional cost.

## Parking

All guests, wedding party members, photographers, florists, etc. are asked to park in the South parking lot only.

## Photographs, Video Cameras, Rice/Birdseed, and Rose Petals

Group photos are welcome before and/or after the service. Photography during the service is allowed if the photographer remains off the stage during the service.

Your wedding service may be recorded. A camera may be placed on the stage in the established position (the wedding assistant will show you where this is at the rehearsal). We recommend that no camera operator stand behind it during the ceremony, as this becomes a distraction during the service. However, if you do have a camera operator standing on the stage, it is recommended that they stay in a stationary position.

Throwing rice, birdseed, rose petals or other material in the church or on the church grounds is NOT permitted. If these rules are not followed, your deposit will not be returned, and additional clean-up costs may be incurred.

## Floral Pieces and Candles

Our church has approved ways of placing floral pieces and candlesticks. This can be discussed with the wedding coordinator. You should consult a florist for flowers and for renting appropriate stands for them. King of Kings is not responsible for the items you have rented. Following the wedding, rental items can be placed in the north hallway, across from the prayer room, until they can be picked up. Items must be picked up within 48 hours of the wedding.

If you want to have a candlelight service, you are welcome to use the candelabras belonging to the church. Freestanding candleholders, which could line the main aisle, are available at rental shops for a small fee. You will need to purchase the candles, which **must be dripless**. Also available for use during your service are the black candle stands used in the Worship Center. These are oil candles.

## **Unity Candle**

This is the placement of three candles to represent your lives to this point in time and the union of your lives in marriage. If you would like to have this element in your ceremony, you can make the arrangements with the wedding coordinator. The church can provide the candleholder. You are required to provide the candles which must be 10-inch dripleless tapers.

## **Decorations**

Any decorating that you would like to do for the wedding needs to be pre-approved by the wedding coordinator and the building manager. All information needs to be presented in a timely fashion. We ask that all requests are made no later than one (1) week before the wedding. Decorations can be set up starting at 5:00 pm the evening before your wedding. A facilities maintenance individual is required for set up and tear down of tables and chairs. Our liability insurance does not allow us to permit members of the wedding party to handle their own set ups and teardowns.

## **Music**

When you have chosen your music selections, please provide them to the wedding coordinator. They will then give them to the worship leader for approval. The Worship Leader can also provide you with a list of soloists, if desired (additional charge).

Note: If you are bringing your own musicians, music selection will still need to be approved.

## **Order of Service**

You will be provided with a digital form to create your order of service. Once the Worship Leader approves your music selections, this can be completed. The pastors at King of Kings Church reserve the right to make the final decision as to the order of the service.

# Setting Your Marriage Up for Success

## Books on Marriage

As you begin your married life, we want you to enter with confidence that your Savior will bless you with His own rich love as you continue in His Word.

Here are some excellent books about Christian marriage which can be found at most Christian bookstores:

Dr. John Gottman – *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*  
Harmony Publishers

Peter & Geri Scazzero – *Emotionally Healthy Relationships*  
Zondervan Publishers

Dr. Les Parrott & Dr. Leslie Parrott - *Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts*  
Zondervan Publishing

Gary Smalley – *I Promise: 5 Essential Commitments Determine the Destiny of Your Marriage*

James C. Dobson – *Love for a Lifetime: Building A Marriage That Will Go the Distance*  
Multnomah Publishers

## Worship Together

Worship together. Do this every day.. In all the things that you will now be doing together, in all the places that you will now be going together, put this at the head of the list. You will experience the truth of Jesus' words: "Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it."

## Pray Together

Pray together! Set aside a given time each day when you will listen to God as you read His Word and you will speak to Him in prayer. Establish your family worship.

## Community

Join in the community of your church. There is joy in doing things for Christ and your neighbor. Labor with love and devotion and see how richly God can bless His own. To that end, we are ready to serve and minister to you at all times in the future. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Make your church and your community a place where you, and the children that God may give you, can grow in grace and live in peace.

## **Our Prayer for You**

As a couple entering the holy estate of marriage, our prayer for you is that God will bless and enrich your lives with His grace, strengthening and supporting you with His love and goodness. May you draw ever closer to Him and to each other as you take this most important step, reflecting His steadfast love in your life-long faithfulness to each other. God bless you now and always!

### **Checklist:**

Steps to take as soon as possible:

- Contact our Wedding Coordinator at 402.333.6464 to set up a date and time for your wedding
- Schedule a meeting with the Wedding Coordinator to go over details and answer questions
- Complete the Wedding Agreement and pay \$250 (\$100 deposit & \$150 for the Prepare-Enrich online assessment and Prepare to Last classes)
- Complete the online couple assessment (Prepare-Enrich)
- Schedule a meeting with the Pastor officiating your ceremony
- Arrange a time to meet with mentor couple
- Sign up for the Prepare to Last classes

Steps to take at least one month before the ceremony:

- Turn in your music selections for review
- Create your order of service
- Turn in your marriage license to the Wedding Coordinator
- Pay all remaining fees
- Meet with Wedding Coordinator to discuss all of the final details for the wedding
- Visit with Wedding Host regarding final details for the rehearsal and wedding day

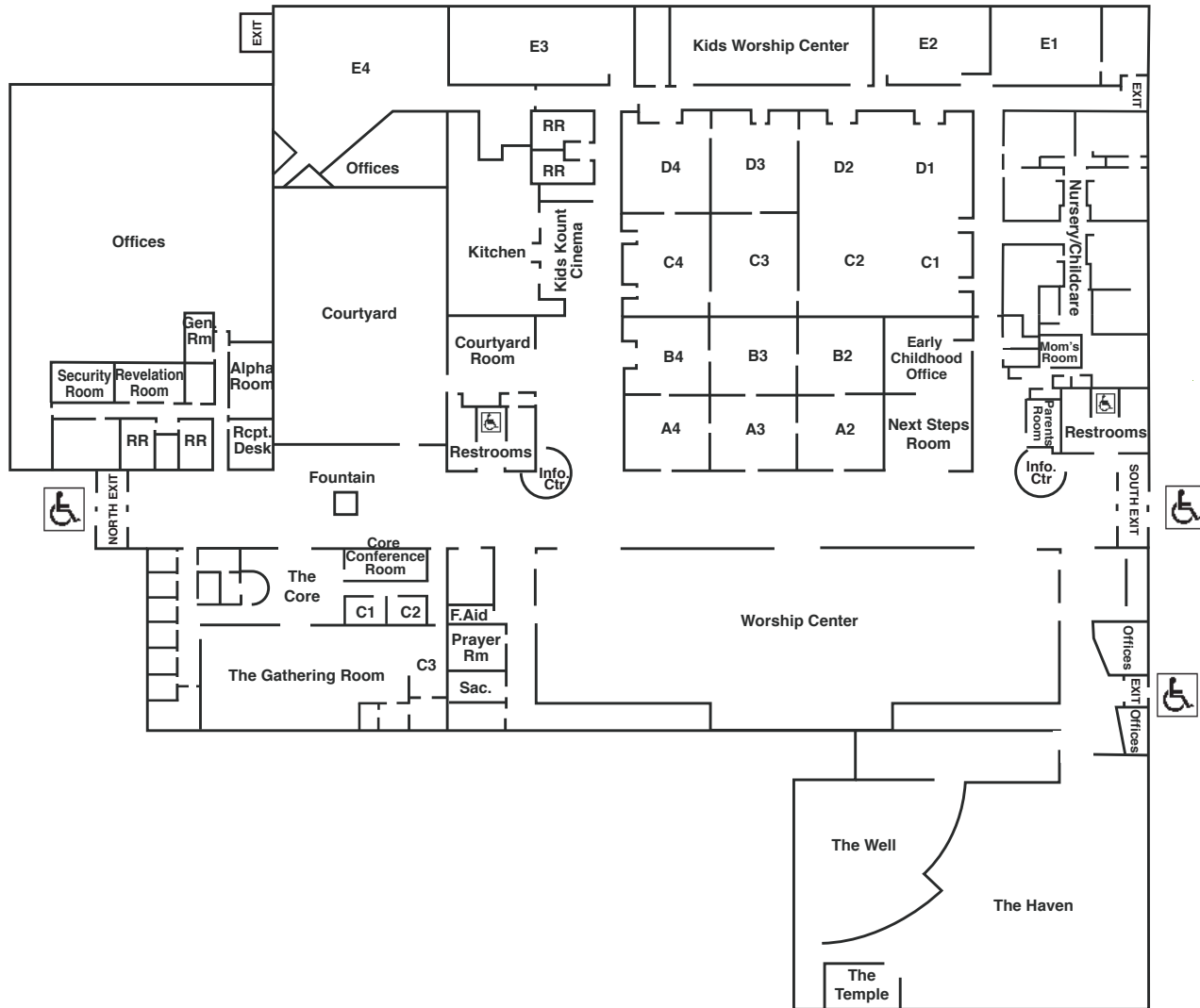
## Fees and Costs

Building Usage Deposit (refundable)	\$100
Building Usage Fee	\$150
Pre-Marriage Classes, Couple Assessment and Mentoring: <i>(This fee covers the cost of class materials and the on-line Prepare-Enrich couple assessment and one-year anniversary assessment.)</i>	\$150
Officiating Pastor (on-site)	\$150
(off-site)	\$175
Wedding Assistant (on-site)	\$125
(off-site -- required)	\$150
Sound Technician	
Rehearsal	\$75
Wedding	\$100
Additional services available:	
Livestream, if available	\$300
Pianist	\$75
Soloist	Varies

*(Updated 8.28.2020)*



# KING OF KINGS Building Map



## MAP KEY

### CHILDREN

- Early Childhood Ministry Office
- Kids 2ys-Kindergarten/Preschool D1-D4, C1-C4, E1-E4
- 1-4 Grades A2-A4 & B2-B4
- 5 & 6 Grades (The Garage)
- Kids Kount Cinema
- Kids Worship Center
- Mother's Room
- Nursery 6wks-2yrs & Childcare
- Parent's Room

### TEENS

- 5&6 Grades (The Well)
- 7-12 Grades (The Haven)
- The Temple

### WORSHIP

- Worship Center

### RESOURCES

- First Aid
- Information Centers
- Offices
- Reception Desk
- Next Steps Room

### ROOMS

- Alpha Room
- Courtyard Room
- The Core-The Gathering Room
- Genesis Room
- Guest Room
- Prayer Room
- Revelation Room

### OTHER

- Fountain
- Kitchen
- Restrooms
- Sacristy
- The Core (Core Conference Room, Core 1-C1, Core 2-C2, Core 3-C3, & The Gathering Room)