



L I F E C E N T E R

**CENTRAL CAMPUS
WEDDING GUIDE**

253-756-5300 | 1717 SOUTH UNION AVENUE | TACOMA, WASHINGTON 98405

Guidelines Updated: May 2023

Life Center Church believes in the sanctity of marriage according to Mark 10:6-9 “But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female. For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife and the two will become one flesh. So, they are no longer two, but one. Therefore, what God has joined together, let man not separate.”

A wedding is one of the most important days in a person’s life, and we want to make your wedding at Life Center as wonderful as possible. We are honored to be a part of this special day.

The following information contains guidelines for Weddings and Receptions at:
Life Center Central Campus | Auditorium | Gray Chapel

HOW TO MAKE YOUR WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS:

Application: Everyone desiring to be married at a Life Center campus must first submit a completed wedding application online. The application can be found at <https://www.lifecenter.com/weddings>

Date Confirmation: Wedding dates are confirmed after a completed wedding application has been submitted online and reviewed. A follow-up call or email will be made by Life Center when a decision has been made.

Fees/Financial: Please refer to the Wedding Fees section included in this guide.

Marriage License: A Washington state marriage license is required for all weddings taking place at Life Center. Each couple is responsible for obtaining a marriage license through their county clerk’s office. The license must be valid at the time of the wedding and brought to the ceremony. Please arrange to have the license sent to the county clerk’s office following the wedding. Submission details will be provided by the county clerk’s office.

Pastor: It is our policy that a staff pastor from Life Center participates in any wedding ceremony held on a Life Center campus. Additional information is available in the Pastor’s section of this guide.

Pre-marital Counseling: All couples being married by a Life Center pastor are required to complete pre-marital counseling. The couple will communicate to the pastor once the counseling is completed. Pre-marital counseling is generally a 10-week process.

Pre-marital Counseling – Application Process: After your wedding date is approved and your pastor has been confirmed, please submit an online request for pre-marital counseling directly on Life Center’s website at <https://www.lifecenter.com/compassionministries> when you are on this page, select pre-marital counseling. Complete the online confidential application/request form. Please submit one application per couple for your pre-marital counseling. Life Center has trained Prepare and Enrich facilitators to help prepare you for marriage. Prepare and Enrich is a faith based 10-week course. The fee for pre-marital counseling is \$100 dollars per couple and a \$35.00 online assessment fee. You are welcome to contact the Compassion Ministry team with pre-marital counseling questions at 253-761-5212.

Site Host: It is our policy that every wedding at a Life Center campus work with the appointed Site Host to coordinate and oversee the booking and facility details. Additional information is available in this guide.

Wedding Coordinator: It is our policy that every wedding at a Life Center campus work with the appointed Wedding Coordinator. Additional information is available in this guide.

Review all guidelines, policies, and information laid out in this packet thoroughly.

FACILITY INFORMATION - Our Church facility is dedicated to the Lord. We require that all those who use our facility show respect for the property. No smoking, alcoholic beverages, dancing, questionable language, or conduct will be permitted under any circumstances in any part of the facility. The bridal party will be held responsible for compliance of their guests of the above stated requirements.

SEATING CAPACITIES:

Central Campus - Auditorium: appropriate for weddings of approximately 1,400 guests

Central Campus - Gray Chapel: appropriate for weddings of approximately 80 guests

Address: The address for the wedding invitations should read: Life Center, 1717 South Union Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405. Do not proceed with these arrangements until you have received definite confirmation of the proposed date for your wedding. A follow-up call or email will be made by Life Center when the wedding date has been confirmed.

Valuables: Life Center will not be responsible for lost or stolen items. Do not leave any valuables in any rooms or in any vehicles.

FACILITY USE GUIDELINES:

Wedding Dates: Weddings are scheduled based on the church calendar availability. Weddings are NOT scheduled on Sundays; or the following holiday weekends: Palm Sunday, Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s.

Ceremony: Weddings will start on time with the Bride, Groom and Pastor.

Cleanup: All decorations from the Auditorium and Chapel need to be removed immediately following the ceremony. (Remember to remove all belongings from the reception area and dressing rooms.)

Damages: The Bridal Party will be held responsible for any damages incurred to property or equipment.

Decorating of the Auditorium/Chapel and Foyer is determined by the availability of the facility.

- Bird seed, rice, confetti, real flower petals, or any material that might be thrown or dropped may NOT be used inside or outside the facilities at the wedding or reception.
- Blowing bubbles is only allowed outside the facility.
- Candles – are allowed in a Hurricane or glass container. NO EXCEPTIONS. Candles of any nature are not permitted down the aisle.

Fees/Financial: Please refer to the Wedding Fees section included in this guide.

Pictures: Taking pictures of the wedding party and the wedding itself is permissible if it does not interfere with the ceremony. Pictures, both in the Auditorium and in the Chapel, must be taken before the ceremony. These must be finished at least one-half hour before the time set for the ceremony.

Receptions: Receptions are scheduled based on the church calendar’s availability. The Wedding Coordinator will be present at the reception. You may have a simple reception with lite food items, or you may choose to have the reception catered with lite fare. You will be responsible to provide and clean up all paper plates, napkins, utensils, lite food, and beverages that are served. NOTE: There is NO kitchen access available. Additional information is available in this guide.

Rehearsal: We invite you to rehearse prior to the ceremony. A 60–90-minute rehearsal time can be scheduled depending on the campus calendar. The appointed Wedding Coordinator will be present to assist with the rehearsal. The pastor does not normally attend.

Rehearsal dinners are not allowed at the church.

Wedding Planning Notes:

PASTORS - It is our policy that a staff pastor from Life Center participates in any wedding ceremony held on a Life Center campus. Our pastors are honored to be a part of your wedding. They will help make it an unforgettable experience, marked with spirituality, dignity, reverence, and warmth.

Life Center staff pastors who are available to officiate weddings are:

Tyler Sollie	Josiah Thomas	Aandre McDonell
Barbara Kelley	Tyler Schaefer	Jeff Davis
Aaron Gentile	Josh Hamm	Nate Birdine

You can request which Life Center staff pastor you would like to officiate your ceremony on the wedding application. The pastors will perform ceremonies depending on the availability in their schedules. Once your wedding date is confirmed, the Site Host will contact the requested pastor to determine availability. After the pastor has been confirmed, we ask that you schedule a time to meet with them in advance of your wedding ceremony. To reach them, please call Life Center's Central Campus office at: 253-756-5300.

SITE HOST – It is our policy that every wedding at a Life Center campus works with the appointed Site Host. The Site Host is the Life Center staff liaison that will be your main contact to oversee the facility details. They will confirm the facility's availability and make the necessary reservations on Life Center's calendar. They will provide the confirmed wedding date, arrival, and departure times. They will coordinate details with the Wedding Coordinator, contact the requested Life Center staff pastor, coordinate with the technical services (audio/visual/lighting), facility team, and others who are doing their part to make your day memorable.

WEDDING COORDINATOR – It is our policy that every wedding held on a Life Center campus works with an appointed Wedding Coordinator. The Life Center Wedding Coordinator is a vital part of your wedding. Your Wedding Coordinator works with the Site Host and will take care of the behind-the-scenes details, allowing you to enjoy your wedding, worry-free. We believe the Wedding Coordinator will be a positive part of your wedding experience.

WEDDING COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

Access: To provide access to the facility on the day of the wedding for you, your wedding party, and your outside vendors: florists, photographers, decorating team, etc.

Wedding Rehearsal: Because the Site Host and/or Wedding Coordinator are familiar with the church facility, they will be available to give access to the facility and assist with the rehearsal to ensure that all Life Center's wedding procedures are followed.

Wedding Day: Will oversee your wedding day details:

- Prepares the dressing rooms for your bridal parties.
- Secures signatures on your marriage license and ensure there is a plan to submit the license to County Clerk's Office
- Will be onsite to help take care of emergencies that may arise.

INFO NEED FROM BRIDAL PARTY:

Musicians and Outside Vendors: It is the bridal party's responsibility to secure florists, photographers, musicians, etc., and to provide their contact information to the Site Host and Wedding Coordinator. We are happy to recommend musicians from Life Center if needed. Fees for all your outside vendors and musicians should be arranged with them directly.

Service Order: Please prepare your ceremony order and give it to the Site Host and Wedding Coordinator one month prior to the wedding. They will ensure the Life Center pastor receives a copy of the order. A ceremony order example is provided in this guide.

Vows: Please share which vows you prefer to use in your ceremony with the Site Host and/or the pastor officiating the ceremony. Wedding vows examples are provided in this packet.

RECEPTIONS - Receptions are scheduled based on the church calendar’s availability. The Wedding Coordinator will be present at the reception.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE – CENTRAL CAMPUS:

- Rectangle 8-foot tables for lite food items (linens are NOT provided)
- Round 60” tables (linens are NOT provided)
- Folding Chairs

BRIDAL PARTY RESPONSIBILITIES: The bridal party is responsible to provide and clean up all paper plates, napkins, utensils, any food, or beverages that will be served.

CATERING*: If a catering service is arranged, please share details of your catering arrangements with the Site Host.

*NOTE: There is NO kitchen access available. Life Center offers a small side sink off of The Stay Café behind the roll-up door. There are outlets on the tile floor in the foyer/lobby.

Wedding Planning Notes:

WEDDING FEES - LIFE CENTER - CENTRAL CAMPUS

The following contain the required compensation and facility charges for Life Center’s Central Campus. All fees must be paid in full prior to your event. Please refer to the notes below and the Fee chart for more details. All wedding guidelines included in this packet must be followed.

DEPOSIT AND COMPENSATION: the **non-refundable security deposit** equal to one-half of your requested room fee is required to reserve the facility for your wedding ceremony. The deposit can be paid in cash, or a check made payable to Life Center and submitted to the Site Host. The remaining room balance, including all applicable service fees, is required at least one week before the scheduled wedding date.

Pastors - The honorarium for your pastor is required at least one week before the scheduled wedding date. The honorarium can be paid in cash or check made payable to your pastor.

Wedding Planning Notes:

BASE WEDDING FEES: *(These figures include the wedding fees listed in the Wedding Fee section)*

Auditorium - Wedding Only - Includes: facility rental of Auditorium, Technical services, Pastor, Site Host & Wedding Coordinator: Non-Member: \$2,250 Member*: 2,000

Auditorium - Wedding with Foyer Reception - Includes: facility rental of Auditorium, Foyer, Technical services, Pastor, Site Host & Wedding Coordinator: Non-Member: \$2,950 Member*: \$2,550

Chapel - Wedding Only - Includes: facility rental of Gray Chapel, Technical services, Pastor, Site Host & Wedding Coordinator: Non-Member: \$1,550 Member*: \$1,400

Chapel - Wedding with Foyer Reception - Includes: facility rental of Gray Chapel, Foyer, Technical services, Pastor, Site Host & Wedding Coordinator: Non-Member: \$2,050 Member*: \$1,750

*To attain **Member Fee** pricing as listed above, the bride or groom must be an active voting member of Life Center Church.

WEDDING FEES - LIFE CENTER - CENTRAL CAMPUS:

1) Rooms	Non-Member Fee	Member Fee*
Auditorium	\$1,000.00	\$750.00
Gray Chapel	\$500.00	\$350.00
Foyer Reception	\$500.00	\$350.00

Rental fees listed above include custodial charges. One-half of your Room Fee(s) above, are due as part of a non-refundable deposit. Please see the Deposit and Compensation section for details.

2) Technical	Non-Member Fee	Member Fee*
Auditorium	\$400.00	\$400.00
Chapel	\$200.00	\$200.00
Foyer Reception	\$200.00	\$200.00

Technical services (Audio, Visual & Lighting) are required for your event at Life Center. The fees above include the rehearsal and ceremony.

3) Additional Fees	Non-Member Fee	Member Fee*
Life Center Pastor	\$350.00	\$350.00
Site Host	\$250.00	\$250.00
Wedding Coordinator	\$250.00	\$250.00

The Site Host and Wedding Coordinator are required for your event at Life Center.

*To attain **Member Fee** pricing as listed above, the bride or groom must be an active voting member of Life Center Church.

WEDDING VOW EXAMPLES:

Example 1

Man: Do you Groom take this woman to be your Wife? To live together in Holy Matrimony. Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her in sickness and in health, and forsaking all others give yourself only to her so long as you both shall live.

I DO

Woman: Do you Bride take this man to be your Husband? To live together in Holy Matrimony. Will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him in sickness and in health, and forsaking all others give yourself only to him so long as you both shall live.

I DO

Man: I, Groom, take you Bride, to be my wedded wife. I promise to love, honor, and cherish you. From this day forward, in good times, and in bad. And I promise to be faithful to you, for as long as we live.

Woman: I, Bride, take you Groom, to be my wedded husband. I promise to love, honor, and cherish you. From this day forward, in good times, and in bad. And I promise to be faithful to you, for as long as we live.

Example 2

Man: Do you Groom take Bride as your wife before God and these witnesses? To love her and honor her as Christ loves His Church? To forsake all others and seek the highest good for her according to the will and the inspiration of God?

I DO

Man: I, Groom take you Bride, to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cherish, with the breath, smiles and tears of all my life, till death shall separate us.

Woman: Do you Bride take Groom as your husband before God and these witnesses? To love him and honor him? To be his inspiration and companion? To seek the highest good for him according to the will and inspiration of God?

I DO

Woman: I, Bride take you Groom, to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cherish, with the breath, smiles and tears of all my life, till death shall separate us.

WEDDING VOW EXAMPLES (CONT.):

Example 3

Man: Groom do you take Bride, as your wife, as your own flesh, to love her even as Christ loves the Church, to protect her and care for her the rest of your lives?

I DO

Woman: Bride do you take Groom, as your husband, submitting yourself to him as unto the Lord, showing reverence to him as the head of this union for the rest of your lives?

I DO

Man: I Groom, take you Bride to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until death do us part. According to God's Word, I leave my father and mother and I join myself to you to be a husband to you. From this moment forward we shall be one.

Woman: I Bride, take you Groom to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish until death do us part. According to God's Word, I come along side you to be your wife. From this moment forward we shall be one.

Example 4

Man: Groom, do you take Bride as your wife, to love her, be kind, gentle and faithful to her even as Christ loves the Church, to protect her and care for her in times of joy and sorrow, for richer or for poorer, and in sickness or health the rest of your lives?

I DO

Man: Turn to Bride & make this profession of your faith: I, Groom, according to the Word of God, unite myself to you, to be a husband to you. From this moment forward, we shall become one.

Woman: Bride, do you take Groom as your husband, showing respect and love, bringing him good not harm, standing by his side in times of joy and sorrow, for richer or for poorer, and in sickness or health for the rest of your lives?

I DO

Woman: Turn to Groom & make this profession of your faith: I, Bride according to the Word of God, pledge to be a wife to you. From this moment forward, we shall become one.

Wedding Planning Notes:

WEDDING CEREMONY SERVICE OUTLINE EXAMPLE

Prelude Music

- Guests ushered in and seated

Mother of Bride escorted to seat

Mother of Groom escorted to seat

Processional of wedding party

Procession of Bride

Minister welcomes guests

- Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

Minister

- Prayer
- Message

Vows

Communion

Song

Unity Candle

Sign Marriage License

Pronouncement / Declaration Kiss

Presentation of Husband & Wife

Postlude Music

Wedding Planning Notes:

Life Center's Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (*Mark 12:28—31; Luke 6:31.*) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Life Center Church.

We believe that some faithful Christians struggle with same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria and that attraction or struggle itself is not a sin. For some children and teens, this is a phase that goes away; for others, it is a life - long struggle. The feelings themselves are not sinful; rather, acting on the feelings is a sin.

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (*Gen. 1:26—27.*) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (*Gen. 2:18—25.*) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (*1 Cor. 6:18, 7:2 —5; Heb. 13:4.*)

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (*Matt. 15:18—20; 1 Cor. 6:9—10.*)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (*Acts 3:19—21; Rom. 10:9—10; 1 Cor. 6:9—11.*)