

**WEDDING INFORMATION  
WINNER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**301 West Fourth St**

**PO Box 526**

**Winner, SD 57580**

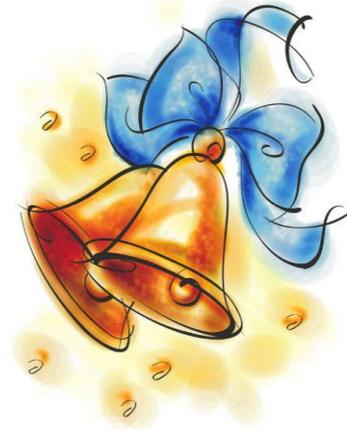
**Phone: 842-0854**

**Email: [umc@gwtc.net](mailto:umc@gwtc.net)**

**Website: [www.winnerumc.org](http://www.winnerumc.org)**

**Office Hours: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**(Monday through Friday)**



1. Before a couple sets a date for their wedding, they must complete the Wedding Information Form and also must be willing to meet the expectations found on the church website (or available at the church office) for wedding held at our church. **BEFORE THE DATE IS WRITTEN ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR**, a deposit that is 50% of the wedding fees must be paid to the church office with the balance paid within three weeks prior to the wedding. When the deposit is received, the date will then be confirmed on the church calendar. In case of a cancellation, 50% of the deposit will be returned.

**EITHER THE BRIDE OR THE GROOM MUST HAVE THEIR NAME ON THE ACTIVE ROLES OF THE CHURCH TO BE CONSIDERED A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH.** If you do not have a church home, we extend to you a warm invitation to worship and share in the life of the church with us. Financial limitations are not a barrier to availability of services from the church.

2. **SET DATES FOR COUNSELING:** It is important pre-marriage counseling begin soon after your engagement. Once you complete the Marriage Information form, the Pastor will send the bride and the groom the pre-marriage assessment via email. Once completed, you will then need to set up a minimum of three counseling times as soon as possible.
3. By action of the Administrative Council, the pastor of this church is to be the Officiating Pastor of all weddings in the church. Exceptions can be made but must be arranged through and with the approval of the current Pastor of the church.
4. **ATTENDANTS:** Please consider the maturity of your attendants (flower girl and ring bearer...) if they are younger than age 4.
5. **MUSIC:** Music which depicts the beauty of human love and directs attention to God is appropriate for your service. The pastor reserves the right to request a change or to exclude a song (or songs). You are free to select your own vocalists and organist. If your selected organist

has never used our church organ, we request you set up a meeting with your organist and our church organist prior to the wedding. The church organist's name can be obtained from the church office. If you choose to have our church organist play for your wedding, you will need to make those arrangements. Please contact her at your earliest convenience on as she has a very busy schedule. If you select our church organist, her fee will be included in the initial fees shown on the Wedding Information Form. If the vocalist needs extract practice times with our organist, an extra fee will be charged by the organist. It is up to you how you show your appreciation to the other musicians and vocalists from outside our church.

6. **PICTURES:** Pictures should be taken in a manner that does not disrupt the sacredness of the ceremony. Flash pictures and discreet videotaping are permissible with prior consultation with the Pastor.
7. **CANDLES:** You are welcome to use our brass candelabra with accompanying candles (off white) with the wax savers in place. If you bring other candelabra, you must use high-quality, non-drip candles AND provide some kind of protection for the carpet under those candelabra. Tasteful, non-damaging decorations may be put in the Fellowship Hall (for receptions) and the Sanctuary (for wedding). Please **DO NOT** use tacks, nails, staples, or adhesives to attach any decorations. The Altar is a special point of attention in our worship of God. The cross, altar candles, and the Bible are to remain on the altar. A unity candle, items for a sand ceremony, or other ceremonies that represent unity may be placed on a stand or table. All decorations are to be removed following the service, including the fasteners.
8. **VALUABLES:** Please **DO NOT** leave valuable items unattended or leave wedding apparel in the dressing rooms overnight. The church is not responsible for theft or damage to such items.
9. **THERE ARE NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR ILLEGAL DRUGS ALLOWED ON CHURCH PROPERTY.** Couples are asked to remind members of the wedding party and their guests to refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages and using illegal drugs before the rehearsal, wedding, and reception. Your wedding is a Christian ceremony. If it is apparent that an individual has been drinking alcoholic beverages or using illegal drugs, they will be asked to leave the church property. If the problem appears to involve multiple individuals, the Pastor has the right to cancel the wedding and/or reception. In this case, no refunds will be issued.
10. **NO SMOKING INSIDE ANY PART OF THE CHURCH (or near the entrances).**
11. **RICE, BIRDSEED AND CANNED STRING ARE NOT TO BE USED AT ALL.** Alternative suggestions include bubbles, bells, or balloons.

**\*\*\*\*\*Exceptions to the above policy are at the discretion of the pastor.**

REHEARSAL: The Wedding Rehearsal is usually planned for the evening before the wedding. Usually included in the rehearsal are the following individuals:

Bride & Groom  
Candle Lighters  
Attendants  
Parents of both parties  
Flower Girl(s)  
Ring Bearer(s)  
Vocalist(s)  
Organist/pianist  
Usher(s)  
Pastor(s)

ORDER OF SERVICE: This is a sample Order of Service. During the pre-marriage counseling sessions you will work with the Pastor to decide upon the order of worship for your wedding. Please check with the Pastor before final printing of your programs. Solos can be dispersed where they best work for your ceremony.

Prelude  
Lighting of the Candles  
Seating of the Family  
Processional  
Greeting/Welcome  
Declaration of Intent  
Prayer  
Music  
Scripture Lesson  
Message  
Exchange of Vows  
Blessing and Exchange of Rings  
Unity Ceremony  
Music  
Declaration of Marriage  
Blessing  
Recessional

## SUGGEST BIBLICAL READINGS FOR MARRIAGE:

Genesis 1:26-28,31a	The creation of man and woman
Genesis 2:18-25 . . .	Initiation of marriage
Ruth 1:1-4, 22 . . .	The Marriage of Ruth & Boaz
1 Peter 3:1-9 . . .	Peace and harmony in the family.
Song of Solomon 2:10-14, 16a; 8:6-7	Love is strong as death.
Isaiah 43:1-7	You are precious in God's eyes.
Isaiah 55:10-13	You shall go out in joy.
Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Rejoice in the Lord.
Isaiah 63:7-9	The steadfast love of the Lord
Romans 12:1-2, 9-18	The life of a Christian
1 Corinthians 13	The greatest of these is love.
2 Corinthians 5:14-17	In Christ we are a new creation.
Ephesians 2:4-10	God's love for us
Ephesians 4:1-6	Called to the one hope
Ephesians 4:25-5:2	Members one of another
Philippians 2:1-2	The Christlike spirit
Philippians 4:4-9	Rejoice in the Lord.
Colossians 3:12-17	Live in love and thanksgiving.
1 John 3:18-24	Love one another.
1 John 4:7-16	God is love.
Revelation 19:1, 5-9a	The wedding feast of the Lamb
Matthew 5:1-10	The Beatitudes
Matthew 7:21, 24-27	A house built upon a rock
Matthew 19:3-6 . . .	The strength of the marriage vows
Matthew 22:35-40	Love, the greatest commandment
Mark 2:18-22	Joy in Christ as at a wedding
Mark 10:42-45	True greatness
John 2:1-11	The marriage feast of Cana
John 15:9-17	Remain in Christ's love.