

WEDDING POLICIES FOR
Perritte Memorial United Methodist Church

1025 Durst Street, Nacogdoches, Texas 75964, (936)564-8427
Mailing Address: 422 E. Main St. #255, Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

It is the responsibility of the Bride and Groom to distribute a copy of these policies to the families of the bride & groom, the photographer, the florist, the caterer, the wedding consultant/director, and every member of the wedding party, and any guest minister.

YOUR WEDDING

The marriage ceremony in the Church is a worship service. It is one of the most sacred rites which the minister performs under the ordination and authority of the church. In order that you may have a sacred and dignified wedding ceremony, you are urged to make thorough preparations, spiritual as well as temporal. The minister and the staff of Perritte Memorial United Methodist Church wish to extend every possible assistance to you toward the end that your wedding in the Church will be a memorable experience.

THE MINISTER

If you desire to have a minister perform the ceremony who is not the minister of the Perritte Memorial United Methodist Church, please confer with the minister at the time you place your wedding date on the Church calendar. The permission of the minister of Perritte Memorial United Methodist Church is essential to extend this invitation. Counseling by the minister of Perritte Memorial United Methodist Church, is required if he or she is to perform your wedding ceremony. Contact the minister for details as to when these counseling sessions can be arranged. These counseling sessions must be completed one (1) month before your marriage ceremony.

FACILITIES AND COST

To a member of Perritte Memorial United Methodist Church the only expenses for use of the sanctuary or fellowship hall will be a thirty-five dollar fee which will go to the janitors for their services rendered and the fee to the Church organist for their services rendered (\$75). Both of these fees must be paid at least two (2) weeks prior to the wedding date. An honorarium for the minister is recommended.

NON-MEMBER COSTS

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| Sanctuary Only..... | \$200 |
| Sanctuary and all additional rooms in Main Building..... | \$300 |
| Memorial Hall..... | \$100 |
| Janitorial Fee Per Building..... | \$ 35 |
| Organist..... | \$ 75 |
| Minister | \$200 |

**ALL FEES MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE CHURCH SECRETARY
TWO (2) WEEKS PRIOR TO THE WEDDING DATE.**

FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

We recommend simple decorations which will emphasize the natural beauty of the sanctuary. The altar is the focal point of the sanctuary and should be unencumbered by floral decorations. On the altar, the flowers cannot extend higher than the cross. No altar appointment (example: cross, chalice, and candles) can be removed from the altar. White paraments will be placed on the pulpit and lectern by the custodian. A minimum of greenery should be used; excessive decorations such as palms or branches, an artificial background for floral arrangements, and special arches of or for flowers, are not in keeping with the service and cannot be used. The furniture owned by the Church, such as tables, cannot be moved in to the sanctuary to be used for holding flowers. The following suggestions are to be used as a guide for the use of flowers and will be the responsibility of the florist; the use of candles is restricted to the chancel area – they cannot be used in the aisle or any other area; protective paper or plastic must be placed on the floor under every candelabra or single candle. Candles are not to be placed on the chancel or communion rail. There will be no taping, gluing, tacking or attaching in any way of decorations to the woodwork, bricks or pews. A financial adjustment must be made if the sanctuary is damaged. If there is any question concerning decorations, the florist should discuss the matter with the minister or the chairman of the Worship Committee. Ribbon may be laid on the pews or tied around the pews, but with no tacks, glue or tape to mark the reserved sections. Flower girls may carry baskets of flowers, but should not drop petals anywhere. Sanctuary furniture is not to be moved.

MUSIC POLICY

Because of the unique and complex nature of our organ, the church strongly feels it would be in your best interest to retain the Church Organist to play for your wedding. Our organist, because of their familiarity with the instrument, can add to your service, music performed at the technical potential of the organ. If you desire to use another organist, we will ask that you retain our organist for no less than one (1) hour at \$15 per hour to familiarize them with the instrument. Music used during the service, that is after the mothers have been seated, should be sacred in nature and content. Music prior to the service may be secular or sacred, but should deal with and show respect for the marriage union and commitment of the service.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographers, professional and amateur, shall not, under any circumstances, take pictures during the actual wedding service, unless they are: 1) standing behind the pew containing guests and, 2) do not use a flash or any type of additional lighting. Time should be scheduled with the wedding party to take pictures of events in the service after the actual service and prior to the reception. A fixed, unmanned, refocused, video camera may be used in special situations as long as it: 1) requires no additional lighting and, 2) is placed in a position designated by the church pastor.

DRESSING FACILITIES

Suggested rooms for the Bride, Bridesmaids, Groom and Groomsmen are the Youth Room, the Library and the Choir Room. All these rooms are located on the lower floor behind the Sanctuary; however, the church cannot be responsible for valuables left in the rooms being used for dressing purposes.

SMOKING AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

No smoking, tobacco products or alcoholic beverages are allowed in any church facility. If the pastor deems that any of the wedding party is intoxicated, the service **Will Not** be performed.

BULLETINS

A bulletin may be used to promote audience participation in the wedding ceremony; however, it is not to be expected that the staff of this church will provide such bulletin.

RECEPTION

Memorial Hall may be used for wedding receptions by arrangement through the church office. All smoking, other tobacco products or alcoholic beverages are prohibited in this building. There will be no rice thrown, for it kills birds. Birdseed should be given at the door as people leave to go outside to watch the bride and groom depart. Any furniture moved out of Memorial Hall must be replaced by person or persons removing it. The kitchen must also be left clean and all dishes put in their proper place.

The church finds joy in the opportunity of enriching this important time of your life. It is hoped that these policies and suggestions will make your wedding a more meaningful experience.