

Wedding Guidelines Booklet



Abiding Shepherd Lutheran Church
406 Cottage Grove Road
Cottage Grove, WI 53527
(608) 839-3770

Email: info@abidingshepherd.org
Website: www.abidingshepherd.org

Six Steps to Planning Your Wedding



1. **Read this booklet...** jot down questions as you read.
2. **Contact the Church to inquire about a date...** you can call (608) 839-3770 or email the Administrative Assistant at info@abidingshepherd.org to check with the pastors to see if your date of choice is available.
3. **Participation in pre-marital counseling...** we ask all couples to participate in premarital counseling. One of our pastors will coordinate the wedding planning and will help you schedule a pre-marital inventory. This inventory will serve as the basis for your pre-marital counseling.

Pre-marital counseling usually includes one or two sessions with the pastor who will preside at your ceremony. Part of the premarital work will include planning the specifics of your wedding service as well. (You are welcome to indicate a preference for the pastor who will preside at your wedding; however, please know that scheduling demands may supersede your requests.)
4. **Planning for your wedding ceremony...** is an exciting part of your preparations! As you meet with one of our pastors to make plans, you are encouraged to bring ideas about ways to personalize your wedding. Of course, all aspects of your wedding need to be appropriate to a worship service and consistent with the Christian understanding of marriage. The pastor with whom you work will try to meet as many of your requests as possible, but please remember the first priority is to honor God with your wedding service.
 - **Suggested Scripture Readings** are on page 3.
 - See **Suggested Musical Selections** on page 4.
 - A sample **Wedding Bulletin** can be found on page 5.
 - Current **Wedding Folder Options** are shown on pages 6-9.
 - The **Wedding Planning Worksheets** are printed on pages 10-12.
5. **Secure a Wedding License...** Wisconsin law requires couples to secure a license to marry. You may apply for a license at the office of the County Clerk of Court in either the county you reside, or in the county in which you will be married. The license fee is \$115 in cash, no checks, credit or debit cards.

The bride and groom apply together and in person. While the license is often issued on the day you apply, the state has up to six (6) full calendar days before they legally are required to issue your license. Once issued the license is valid for us within the next 30 days. So plan now on the details of getting your license!

The couple must have 1) date and place of ceremony, 2) full name and title of the officiant, 3) Photo ID, 4) Social Security card, 4) Proof of where you physically live, 5) certified birth certificate, 6) if previously married, judgment of divorce. The officiating pastor will let you know when he wants the license available since he is responsible for its completion and mailing.

Complete details at: http://www.countyofdane.com/clerk/marriage_license.aspx
6. **Priorities ...** One of the most beneficial things an engaged couple can do to prepare for married life is to discuss important items like budgets, raising children (if applicable), and especially faith and where each person is at in their relationship with the Lord (including one's prayer and worship life). Since the patterns of behavior a couple establishes early in the marriage tend to stay with them for a lifetime, now is a good time to begin discussing and practicing these things.

Suggested Scripture Readings

Gen. 2:18 It Is Not Good for the Man To Be Alone

Num. 6:24-26 The Aaronic Blessing

Deut. 33:25b Your Strength Will Equal Your Days

Deut. 33:27a The Eternal God Is Your Refuge. And Underneath Are the Everlasting Arms

Jos. 1:8 Meditate on it Day and Night

Jos. 24:15b As for Me And My Household. We Will Serve the Lord

Ruth 1:16-17 Where You Go, I will Go

1 Chr. 17:27 Bless the House of Your Servant

Ps. 23:1-6 I will Dwell in the House of the Lord Forever

Ps. 23:1 The Lord Is My Shepherd

Ps. 23:1-3 My Shepherd Guides Me in Paths of Righteousness

Ps. 23:3b He Guides Me for His Name's Sake

Ps. 23:6 All the Days of My Life And Forever

Ps. 27:4 One Thing I Ask of the Lord

Ps. 31:3b For the Sake of Your Name Lead And Guide Me

Ps. 37:5 Commit Your Way to the Lord

Ps. 51:17-19 The Sacrifices of God

Ps. 103:1-2 Praise And Forget Not

Ps. 118:14 The Lord Is My Strength

Ps. 119:97 Oh, How I Love Your Law

Ps. 121:8 The Lord Will Watch over Your Coming And Going

Ps. 127:1 Unless the Lord Builds the House

Pr. 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord

Pr. 3:33 The Lord Blesses the Home of the Righteous

Pr. 18:22 He Who Finds a Wife Finds What Is Good

Pr. 19:14 A Prudent Wife Is from the Lord

Is. 41:10 Do Not Fear; I Will Uphold You

Is. 54:10 My Unfailing Love for You Will Not Be Shaken

Is. 62:5b As a Bridegroom Will Your God Rejoice over You

Jr. 17:7 Blessed Is the Man Who Trusts in the Lord

Jr. 31:3 I Have Loved You with an Everlasting Love

Ez. 16:60 I Will Establish an Everlasting Covenant with You

Mt. 6:33 Seek First His Kingdom And His Righteousness

Mt. 7:24-25 A House Founded on a Rock

Mt. 19:6b What God Has Joined Together, Let Man Not Separate

Mt. 28:20 Surely I Will Be with You Always

Lk. 10:41-42 One Thing Is Needed

Lk. 12:15b A Man's Life Does Not Consist in the Abundance of His Possessions

Lk. 14:20 I Just Got Married, So I Can't Come Stay with Us

Lk. 24:29 Jesus And His Disciples Invited to the Wedding

Jn. 2:2 the Bride Belongs to the Bridegroom

Jn. 3:29 I Am the Good Shepherd

Jn. 10:11 My Sheep Listen to My Voice

Jn. 10:27-28 The Spirit Himself Testifies That We Are God's Children

Rom. 8:16 In All Things God Works for the Good of Those Who Love Him

Rom. 8:28 If God is For Us, Who Can Be Against Us?

Rom. 8:31-32 Be Joyful in Hope, Patient in Affliction, Faithful in Prayer

Rom. 12:12 Interdependence in Marriage

1 Cor. 11:11 The Greatest of These Is Love

1 Cor. 13:1-13 I Promised You to One Husband, to Christ

2 Cor. 11:2 Be Kind and Compassionate, Forgiving Each other

Eph. 4:32 Always Giving Thanks

Eph. 5:20 Wives, Submit - Husbands, Love

Eph. 5:22-33 Just As Christ Feeds And Cares for the Church

Eph. 5:29 The Peace of God Will Guard Your Hearts And Your Minds in Christ Jesus

Php. 4:7 My God Will Meet All Your Needs

Php. 4:19 Never Will I Leave You; Never Will I Forsake You

He. 13:5 Cast All your Anxiety on Him Because He Cares for You

1 P. 5:7 The Wedding of the Lamb Has Come

Rev. 19:7-8 Blessed Are Those Who Are Invited to

Rev. 19:9



Suggested Musical Selections

You are welcome to a copy of the CDs to preview
(Other music may be used upon pastoral approval)

The Essential Wedding Collection

CD1

Prelude

Bach: Sheep May Safely Graze *Cantata 208*
Bach: Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring *Cantata 147*
Bach: Air on the G String *Orchestral Suite No. 3*
Handel: Air *Water Music*
Stainer: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Pachelbel: Canon

Processional

Wagner: Bridal Chorus *Lohengrin*
Clarke: Trumpet Voluntary
Purcell: Trumpet Tune and Air

The Ceremony

Franck: Panis Angelicus
Bach/Gounod: Ave Maria
Mozart: Alleluja *Exsultate, Jubilate*
Handel: Hornpipe *Water Music*
Mendelssohn: Wedding March *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
Irvine: The Lord's My Shepherd
Mozart: Laudate Dominum *Vespers*
Handel: Let the Bright Seraphim *Samson*
Monk: Abide With Me
Handel: Ombra Mai Fu *Serse*
Mendelssohn: On Wings of Song

Postlude

Widor: Toccata *Organ Symphony No. 5*
Goss: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven



CD2

Classic Love Themes

My Heart Will Go On
I Will Always Love You
Love Theme
Up Where We Belong
As Time Goes By
Take My Breath Away
Can You Feel the Love Tonight
Evergreen
Love Is All Around
Maid Marian at the Waterfall (Everything I Do)
Moon River
Where Do I Begin
When a Man Loves a Woman
The Way We Were
Unchained Melody

Wedding Bulletins

The church can print the bulletins for you. The rough draft for bulletins printed by the church needs to be in the Church Office at least 1 week before the service. Please ask the pastor if you would like our current selection of bulletin covers. A sample wedding bulletin is printed below. You may wish to include or exclude certain optional items for your wedding. The pastor can offer helpful suggestions if you have questions.

Marriage Service of
Names: _____
Date: _____
Processional - Title ____ <i>(Composer)</i> ____
Scripture Lessons

Wedding Sermonette - Text _____
text
text
text
text
The Rite of Marriage
Consent
Vows
Exchange of Rings
Pronouncement of Marriage
Wedding Prayer & Lord's Prayer
Blessing
Recessional - Title ____ <i>(Composer)</i> ____
 <i>Possible extras: Hymns, unity candle, solos, etc.</i>

Attendants & Special Guests
Matron of Honor
_____ (_____ of bride)
Best Man
_____ (_____ of groom)
Bridesmaids
_____ (_____ of bride)
_____ (_____ of bride)
_____ (_____ of bride)
_____ (_____ of bride)
Groomsmen
_____ (_____ of groom)
_____ (_____ of groom)
_____ (_____ of groom)
_____ (_____ of groom)
Parents of the Bride

Parents of the Groom

Ushers
_____ (_____ of bride)
_____ (_____ of groom)
Music

Officiant
Pastor <i>First Name / Last Name</i>
 <i>Possible extra: special guests, special people absent, etc.</i>

WEDDING FOLDER OPTIONS: All 8.5 x 11 (Letter Size, folded in half)

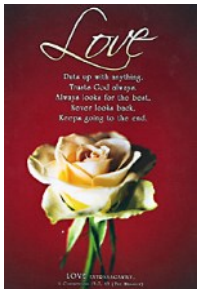
(Complete and current listings at: christianbook.com, cph.org; nph.net)



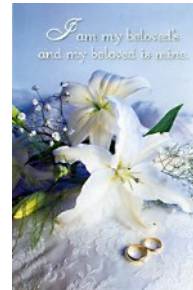
God Bless Our Wedding Day. there will be heard once more the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD, saying, "Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good; his love endures forever."
WW79886



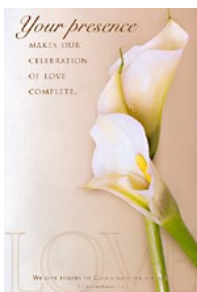
This bulletin features a Calla Lily with a white ribbon wrapped around the stem. Next to it are the words, From this day forward our thoughts and actions will be for each other...our plans mutual, our joys and sorrows shared...as we become one in Christ.
136197



The word LOVE is at the top and below it says Puts up with anything, Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, Keeps going to the end. At the bottom it says LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY. 1 Corinthians 13:7&13
130004



This bulletin has white orchids with baby's breath along side the flowers. The flowers lay on lace material with 2 gold wedding bands. The words I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine is at the top of the bulletin.
WW121584



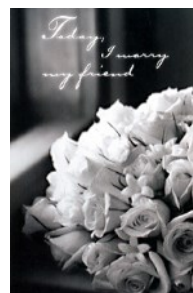
This bulletin features 2 Calla Lillies on the side and have the words Your presence Makes Our Celebration of Love Complete next to them. On the bottom in the background very lightly it says LOVE and the words We Give Thanks to God Always For You All. 1 Thessalonians 1:12 imprinted on the top of the word LOVE.
130005



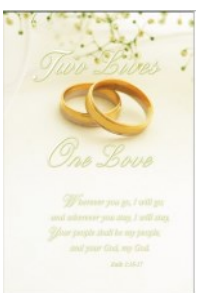
This bulletin features cream roses and the words LOVE is patient; love is kind, love rejoices, love protects, love trusts, love perseveres, love never fails in brown lettering above the roses.
130032



This bulletin has a vine-like background with wedding rings on a white cross.
139435



This bulletin is in black and white with a wedding bouquet (with roses) and above the bouquet the words say Today, I marry my friend.
130035



Two lives—one love. Wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you stay, I will stay, Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Ruth 1:16
WW117848



Love Bears all things Believes all things Hopes all things Endures all things 1 Corinthians 13:7 NKJV
WW121591

WEDDING BULLETIN OPTIONS: 8.5 x 11 (Letter Size, folded in half)

(Complete and current listings at: christianbook.com, cph.org; nph.net)



Today I Will Marry My Friend. I am my beloved, and my beloved is mine. **WW102614**



Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. **U6273**



Today I will Marry my Friend. **WW102632**



Live, Laugh, Love
If we love one another,
God lives in us and his
love is made complete
in us. 1 John 4:12 NIV
WW115422

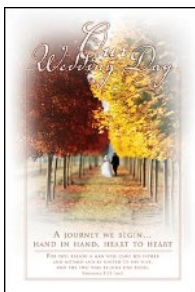


Thank you for sharing our special day. This is the day the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. Psalm 118:23
WW115438

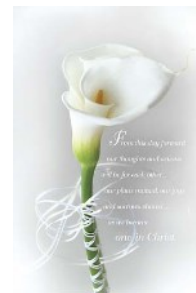


Our wedding day. I have loved you with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3
130245

Panoramic Style feature a full-color "wrap-around" visual from the front to back.



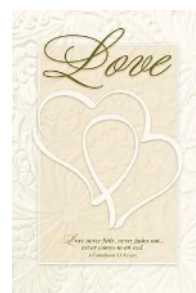
A Journey We Begin, hand in hand, heart to heart. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. **U6219**



From this day forward our thoughts and actions will be for each other—our plans mutual, our love and sorrows shared—as we become one in Christ. **WW619711**



One in Christ. One in Love **U6279**



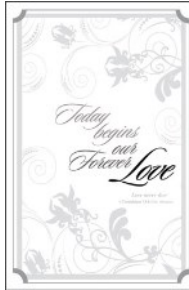
Love. Love never fails, never fades out, never comes to an end. **WW88358**

WEDDING BULLETIN OPTIONS: 8.5 x 11 (Letter Size, folded in half)

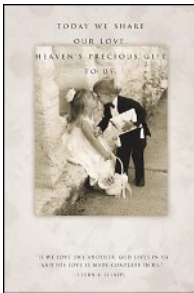
(Complete and current listings at: christianbook.com, cph.org; nph.net)



Thank you for sharing our special day. A man will be united to his wife and the two will become one flesh. **WW61200X**



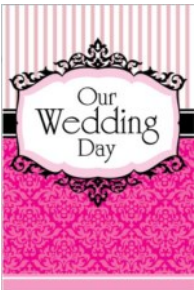
Today begins our Forever love. Love never dies. **U6288**



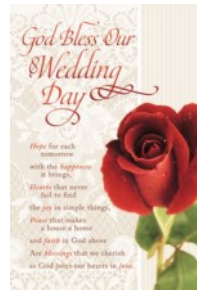
Today we share our love. Heaven's precious gift to us. If we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us. **U6173**



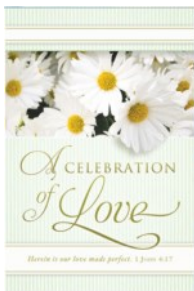
Today I marry my best friend. This is my beloved, and this is my friend. Song of Solomon 5:16 **WW622200**



Our Wedding Day (Scripture on back)
If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.
1 John 4:12 (NIV1984)
WW117567



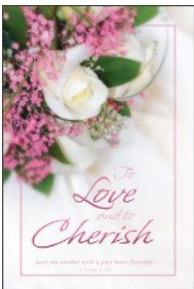
God Bless Our Wedding Day
Hope for each tomorrow with the happiness it brings,
Hearts that never fail to find the joy in simple things,
Peace that makes a house a home and faith in God above
Are blessings that we cherish as God joins our hearts in love.
U6314



A Celebration of Love.
Herein is our love made perfect.
1 John 4:17
WW117508



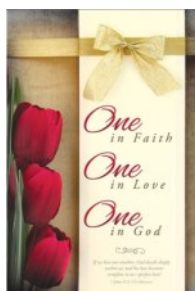
Two Shall Become One (in red).
James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above (in red).
U6270



To love and the cherish. Love one another with a pure heart forever.
U6283



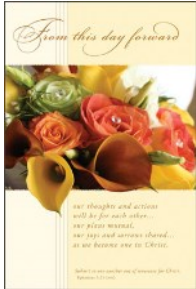
Love is patient and kind, always trusts, never fails. **U6195**



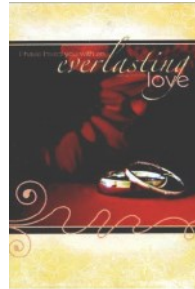
One in Faith. One in Love. One in God.
My dear, dear friends, if God loved us like this, we certainly ought to love each other. No one has seen God, ever. But if we love one another, God dwells deeply within us, and his love becomes complete in us-perfect love! 1 John 4:12 (The Message) **WW121712**

WEDDING BULLETIN OPTIONS: 8.5 x 11 (Letter Size, folded in half)

(Complete and current listings at: christianbook.com, cph.org; nph.net)



From this day forward our thoughts and actions will be for each other...our plans mutual, our joys and sorrows shared...as we become one in Christ.
WW110956



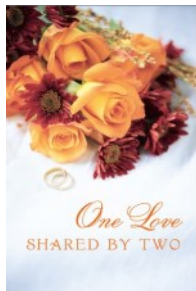
I have loved you with an everlasting love.
Jeremiah 31:3
WW113174



Love... yesterday, today & always.
WW10267X



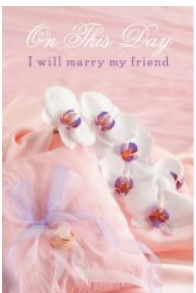
I give thee my love
WW121524



One Love Shared by Two
WW121619



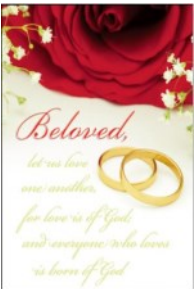
One in Christ
WW121561



On this day I will marry my friend
WW121526



And the greatest of these is love
WW121464



Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Book Chapter: 1 John 4:7
WW117774



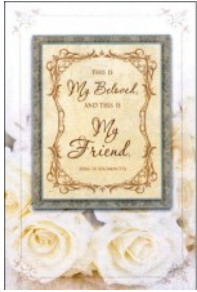
God gave us love so we might glimpse heaven on earth. He has made everything beautiful in its time. Ecclesiastes 3:11
WW117785



Yesterday...we discovered love, gently unfolding in our hearts, whispering of the joy to come.
Today...Our dreams will come true, creating memories that we'll cherish for a lifetime.
Tomorrow...We being a new journey hand in hand, eager to explore a world of promise.
Forever...We will share an everlasting love that could come from God alone.
WW624500

WEDDING BULLETIN OPTIONS: 8.5 x 11 (Letter Size, folded in half)

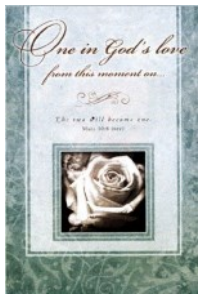
(Complete and current listings at: christianbook.com, cph.org; nph.net)



I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine.
WW113294



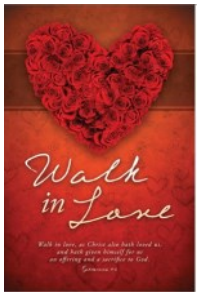
I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine. **WW113294**



*One in God's love from this moment on...
The two will become one. Mark 10:8
(NIV)*
WW113174



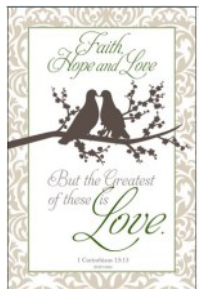
*Today I marry my friend, the one who
shares my hopes and dreams
This is my beloved, and this is my friend.
Song of Solomon*
WW116816



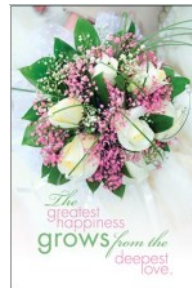
*Walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us,
and hath given himself for us an offering
and a sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2*
WW117495



*Thank you for sharing our special day
This is the day the Lord has made; let us
rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24
(NIV 1984)*
WW116864



*Faith, Hope and Love. But the greatest of
these is Love. 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV
1984)*
WW117527



*The greatest happiness grows from the
deepest love. Love one another deeply,
from the heart. 1 Peter 1:22 NIV*
WW114179



*Love...yesterday, today and tomorrow.
Abide in my love. John 15:10*
WW114214



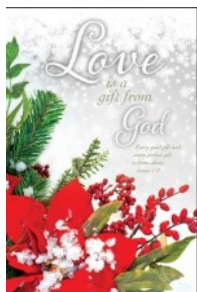
*Today I will marry my friend. Where you
go, I will go and where you stay, I will
stay, Your people will be my people and
your God my God. Ruth 1:16, NIV*
WW114191



*How great is the love the Father has lavished
on us! (1 John 3:1, NIV).*
WW115575

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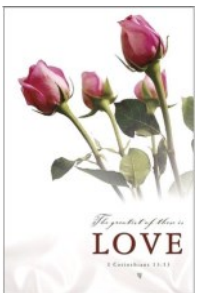
(Complete and current listings at: christianbook.com, cph.org; nph.net)



*Love is a gift from God.
Every good gift and every perfect gift is
from above. James 1:17*
WW117556



*Love always protects, always trusts, al-
ways hopes, always perseveres, Love nev-
er fails. 1 Corinthians 13:7-8*
WW117846



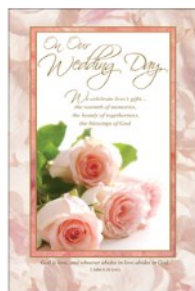
*The greatest of these is love. (1 Corin-
thians 13: 13 NIV)*
WW39145



*Heavenly Father, Please bless us on this
holy day of new beginnings. Teach us to
love purely and faithfully with a love like
Yours. With each new dawn, may we draw
closer to each other as we draw closer to
You. Amen.*
WW116795



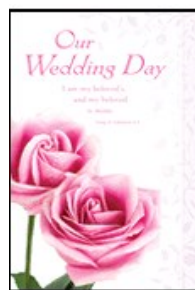
One in Christ
WW121472



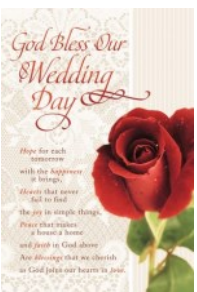
*We celebrate love's gifts.. the warmth of
memories, the beauty of togetherness, the
blessings of God. God is love, and who-
ever abides in love abides in God. 1 John
4:16 (ESV)*
WW118883



*May our lives reflect the One who gave us
love. If we love one another, God
dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in
us. 1 John 4:12*
WW116841



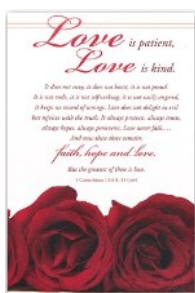
*Our Wedding Day... I am my beloved's,
and my beloved is mine. Song of Solomon
6:3*
WW113174



*God Bless Our Wedding Day—Hope for
each tomorrow with the happiness it
brings, hearts that never fail to find the
joy in simple things, peace that makes a
house a home and faith in God above
are blessings that we cherish as God
joins our hearts in love.* **WW114085**



*How precious is the promise that unites
two hearts as one. The Lord make you to
increase and abound in love one toward
another. 1 Thessalonians 3:12*
WW114203



*Love is patient, Love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not
rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love
does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts,
always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails....And now these three remain: faith,
hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, 13 (NIV)*
WW102621

Abiding Shepherd Wedding Planning Worksheet

Wedding Date _____ Time _____ am pm

Church needs to be open? _____ Time _____ am pm

Rehearsal Date _____ Time _____ am pm

Wedding Location _____

Bulletin Printed by: A) Couple B) Church provides/prints _____ copies bulletin # _____

Bride's Information _____
(full name) (date of birth)

(street) (city) (state) (zip)

(phone) (email)

Name of Parents _____

Groom's Information _____
(full name) (date of birth)

(street) (city) (state) (zip)

(phone) (email)

Name of Parents _____

Bridal Party? _____ men _____ women

Maid/Matron of Honor _____ Best Man _____

Bridesmaid _____ Groomsman _____

Bridesmaid _____ Groomsman _____

Bridesmaid _____ Groomsman _____

Bridesmaid _____ Groomsman _____

Bridesmaid _____ Groomsman _____

Children Participating? Ring Bearer _____

Flower Girl _____

Abiding Shepherd Wedding Planning Worksheet

Unity candle?	No	Yes
Music during lighting of unity candle _____		
Veil?	No	Yes
Flowers: Delivered on _____	at _____	am pm
Photographs before service?	No	Yes
Photographs after service?	No	Yes
Photographs during service?	No	Yes*
Video taping service?	No	Yes
Parental consent?	No	Yes
Special needs or other items:	No	Yes (explain below)

* Please discuss the use of non-flash photography during the service with Pastor prior to the wedding.

Abiding Shepherd Order of Service Planning Worksheet

Pre-service music _____

Processional _____

Invocation

Scripture Lessons #1 _____

#2 _____

Wedding Address Text _____

The Marriage Rite

Consent

Exchange of Vows

Exchange of Rings

Marriage Pronouncement

Marriage Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Kiss & Announcement of Bridal Couple

Recessional _____

Other music for the service:

Music/Solos: _____

Music/Hymns: _____

