

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 6-10.
- The **Wedding Planning Worksheets** are printed on pages 11-12.

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

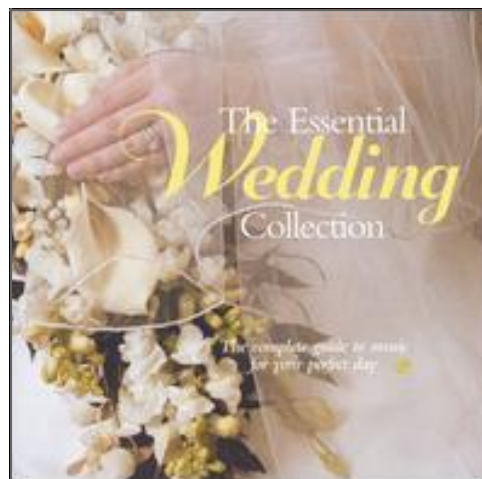
Wagner: Bridal Chorus *Lohengrin*
Clarke: Trumpet Voluntary
Purcell: Trumpet Tune and Air

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.

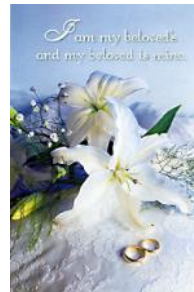
Marriage Service of
Names: _____
Date: _____
Processional - Title ____ <i>(Composer)</i> ____
Scripture Lessons _____ _____
Wedding Sermonette - Text _____ text text text text
The Rite of Marriage Consent Vows Exchange of Rings Pronouncement of Marriage
Wedding Prayer & Lord's Prayer
Blessing
Recessional - 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)
Groomsmen _____ (_____ 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 gave us love so we might glimpse heaven on earth. He has made everything beautiful in its time. Ecclesiastes 3:11
WW117785



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



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



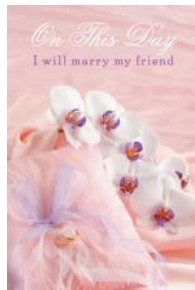
Love Bears all things Believes all things Hopes all things Endures all things 1 Corinthians 13:7 NKJV
WW121591



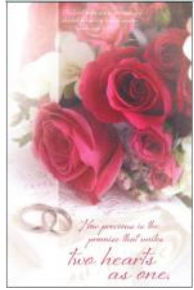
One Love Shared by Two
WW121619



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



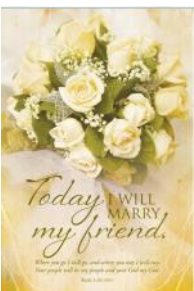
On this day I will marry my friend
WW121526



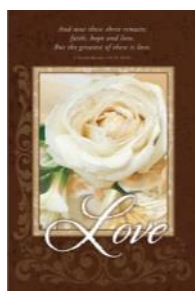
How precious is the promise that unites two hearts as one. The Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another. 1 Thessalonians 3:12
WW114203



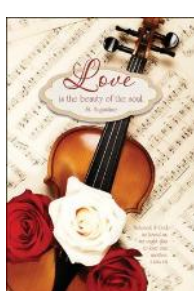
One in Christ
WW121561



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



And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. Love (1 Corinthians 13:13, NIV)
WW115556



A quotation from St. Augustine placed over a violin, three roses, and musical scores renders this worship bulletin perfect for weddings or Valentine's Day. Love is the beauty of the soul. St. Augustine. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. 1 John 4:11 (KJV)
WW123985

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

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



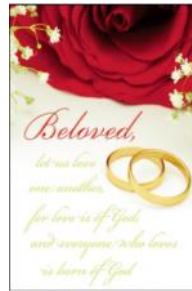
*Today I marry my best friend.
This is my beloved, and this is my friend. Song of Solomon 5:16*
WW622200



*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



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



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



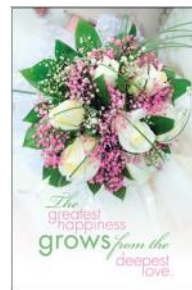
*Love...yesterday, today and tomorrow.
Abide in my love. John 15:10*
WW114214



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



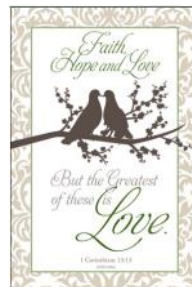
*Today I marry my friend, the one who shares my hopes and dreams
This is my beloved, and this is my friend.
Song of Solomon*
WW116816



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



*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



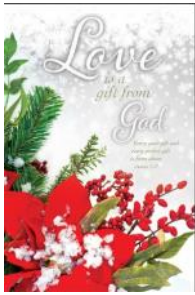
Faith, Hope and Love. But the greatest of these is Love. 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV 1984)
WW117527



*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)



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



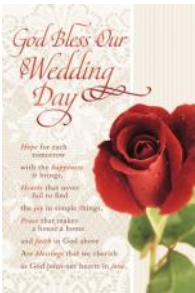
Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres, Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:7-8
WW117846



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



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



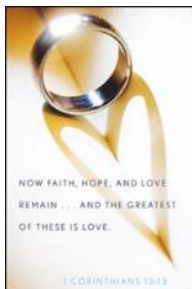
God Bless Our Wedding Day—Hope for each tomorrow with the happiness it brings, hearts that never fail to find the joy in simple things, peace that makes a house a home and faith in God above are blessings that we cherish as God joins our hearts in love. **WW114085**



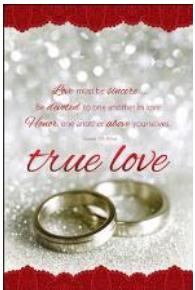
We celebrate love's gifts.. the warmth of memories, the beauty of togetherness, the blessings of God. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God. 1 John 4:16 (ESV)
WW118883



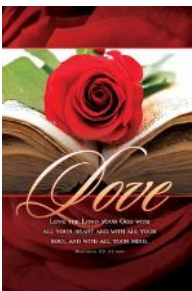
An elegant *White Rose Bloom* wedding bulletin features the Scripture verse:
What God has put together... Mark 10:9.
WW773023



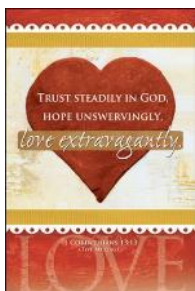
Ring With Heart wedding bulletin features a ring symbolizing the life-long love and commitment in marriage with Scripture *Now faith, hope, and love remain... and the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13* **WW776854**



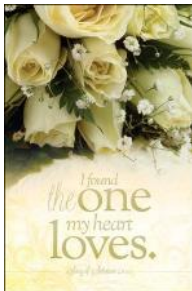
Love must be sincere .. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Romans 12:9-10 **WW121657**



Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Mathew 22:37 **WW 121665**



Love Extravagantly bulletin features inspirational Scripture: *Trust steadily in God, Hope unswervingly, Love extravagantly.* 1 Corinthians 13:13 **WW125119**



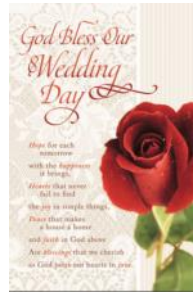
I found the one my heart loves. Song of Solomon 3:4 (NIV) **WW123916**

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

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



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



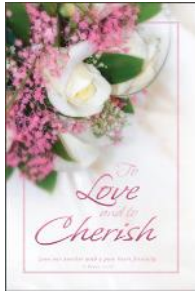
God Bless Our Wedding Day
Hope for each tomorrow with the happiness it brings,
Hearts that never fail to find the joy in simple things,
Peace that makes a house a home and faith in God above
Are blessings that we cherish as God joins our hearts in love.
U6314



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**



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



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



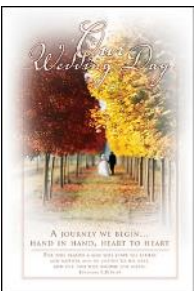
Two Shall Become One (in red).
James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above in red).
U6270



Classic yet contemporary Love Never Ends wedding bulletin features the Scripture verse: LOVE is patient, LOVE is kind Love never ends. 1 Corinthians 13:4,8.
WW736182



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

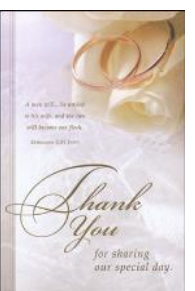


A Journey We Begin, hand in hand, heart to heart. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.

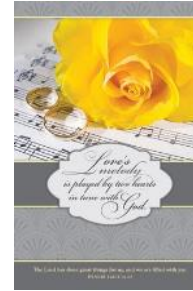
U6219



God Bless our Wedding Day
I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine; Song of Solomon 6:3
WW117858



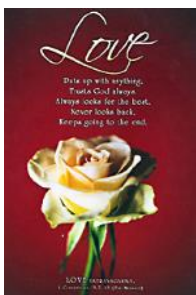
A man will...be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. Ephesians 5:31 (NIV)
Thank you for sharing our special day.
WW118859



Love's melody is played by two hearts in tune with God.
The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Psalm 126:3 (NIV) **WW123921**

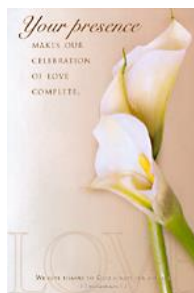
WEDDING BULLETIN OPTIONS: 8.5 x 11 (Letter Size, folded in half)

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



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



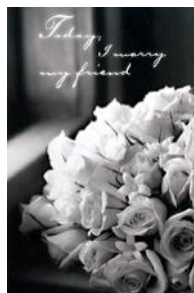
This bulletin features 2 Calla Lillies on the side and have the words Your presence Makes Our Celebration of Love Complete next to them. On the bottom in the background very lightly it says LOVE and the words We Give Thanks to God Always For You All. 1 Thessalonians 1:12 imprinted on the top of the word 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 is in black and white with a wedding bouquet (with roses) and above the bouquet the words say Today, I marry my friend.

130035



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

139435



Today I will marry my friend; the one I laugh with, live for, dream with, Love.

WW117856



I will be here When you feel like being quiet. When you need to speak your mind. I will listen. And I will be here when the laughter turns to cryin' Through the winning, losing and trying, we'll be together. I will be here. And you can cry on my shoulder. When the mirror tells us we're older. I will hold you. And I will be here to watch you grow in beauty and tell you all the things you are to me. I will be here. I will be true to the promise I have made to you and to the One who gave you to me.. Oh, I will be here. **WW116784**

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



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

130245



This bulletin features a dramatic bridal bouquet in purple laying on a pedestal on the cover.

WW118915



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



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....

U6273

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: _____

