

First Presbyterian Church of Hector

Wedding Policy

1. Hector Presbyterian Church is available for weddings. Weddings must be approved by the pastor and the session. The pastor will perform all weddings. If you would like another pastor to be a part of the service, you will need to obtain the approval of the pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Hector and provide the name and contact information of the guest pastor so that an invitation can be extended. The pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Hector is considered the officiating pastor and will plan the service in consultation with the bride and groom and musician. Note: our sanctuary can seat up to 160.
2. The pastor will meet with couples for at least one counseling session before agreeing to any wedding. The pastor may require the couple to attend a certain number of counseling sessions with the pastor or with another qualified counselor.
3. The fee for church use is \$200.00 for non-members. This fee entitles the wedding party to use of the church on the wedding day and for one rehearsal. There is no fee for church use by members or their children. The fellowship hall is available for receptions for an additional fee of \$100.00. These fees are payable at the rehearsal. Note: our fellowship hall can seat up to 74.
4. The fee for the pastor's services is \$300.00 for non-members. This fee entitles couples to counseling with the pastor and use of the pastor's services for the rehearsal and the wedding. There is no fee for the pastor's services for members. Half of the fee is due at the first meeting with the pastor. The balance is due at the rehearsal.
5. Pre-recorded music is not in accordance with Christian Worship. The pastor and organist must approve all musical selections. The fee for the organist is to be negotiated with the organist. This fee must be paid by members and nonmembers alike. This fee is payable at the rehearsal. The Hector Presbyterian church organist has a "right of first refusal" for weddings. Exceptions can be granted by the pastor and organist in cases of family members, close friends to the couple. If an organist or other musician is hired by the pastor per the couple's instructions, the couple is obligated to pay that musician the agreed fee if plans change.
6. Securing a soloist is the responsibility of the couple as is arranging rehearsal time.
7. The wedding party is responsible for removing all refuse they bring into the church. This includes florist boxes, programs, dry-cleaning bags, etc. The wedding party has responsibility to remove wedding candles, floral arrangements immediately after the wedding. Any such materials left at the church longer than 24 hours will be disposed of.
8. Rice and bird seed are not to be used on church grounds. The use of soap bubbles is allowed.
9. Weddings at Hector Presbyterian Church will be services of Christian Worship. The Word will be read and proclaimed as part of this service. It is strongly encouraged that music selections are sacred.
10. The use of flash photography during the service is not allowed. This will be announced at the beginning of all weddings. If the wedding is to be videotaped, the camera is to remain in one unobtrusive position.
11. The couple has the responsibility to obtain the proper New York State Wedding license which the pastor will sign and return to the town clerk.
12. The use of helium balloons is not allowed in the sanctuary as the balloon cords can become entangled in the ceiling fans.