

Congratulations!

You're engaged! Few things in life can equal the joy of this time in your life—the excitement of falling in love, getting engaged, planning a wedding, and of course, getting married. As you begin to plan your wedding, your mind is probably full of things to put on a “to-do” list. If you are considering holding your service at Hillcrest Covenant Church and a pastor at Hillcrest to perform your ceremony, here are a few things that may help you in that decision.

God knows about marriage.

We at Hillcrest are interested in weddings because they are the way people enter into married life. Since God created marriage, we believe he knows the most about it! We are eager both to help couples discover God's teaching about marriage and to make good preparations for marriage so that they can have the love-filled and satisfying relationship that God intended when he created marriage.

We are here to help.

We believe that God wants us to help couples establish Christian marriages and families. While we want to help you with those details that will make your wedding day very special, we are even more concerned about helping to make your marriage all that it can be. We would be glad to help you do this, if that is your desire as well. The wedding services that we perform reflect the values that we have outlined on this website.

If you have not yet entered into a relationship with Jesus Christ, we are available to answer your questions and help you come to faith in Christ. We invite you to call us and/or visit Hillcrest Covenant Church.

If you are Christians and are comfortable with the emphasis on Christian marriage, please contact our church office to set up an appointment where we can further discuss your upcoming wedding.

What are our requirements?

We require that you attend church on a regular basis—if you don't have a church home, we invite you to attend Hillcrest. Because we are interested more in your marriage than in your wedding itself, we also believe in and require that couples go through a premarital mentoring process. Each couple will take the PREPARE survey and then meet with the Lead Mentor Couple from the Marriage Matters Ministry. After that meeting, a mentor couple will be assigned to you to begin a mentoring relationship. You will meet with them regularly—six sessions over approximately a three month period. Sessions will center on exploring various aspects of what you can expect in your relationship as a married couple. You'll be asked to continue that exploration through homework that is intended to help you further those conversations and to reflect *on the feedback from the PREPARE survey*. This homework is an incredibly valuable part of the mentoring process and is expected to be completed regularly. Two sessions also will be scheduled with the pastor performing your ceremony (scheduled at the pastor's discretion). It is ideal to complete all sessions at least eight weeks prior to the scheduled wedding. Because of all of these preparations, we would prefer a minimum of four months before a marriage to consider scheduling a wedding at Hillcrest. Because we value marriage so highly, Hillcrest wants to be available to you. You are invited to become a part of our church family through worship, community, and opportunities that encourage growth in your relationship with God and each other.