

Congratulations: We are honored that you are considering having your wedding ceremony here at Everglades Community Church. The congregation and staff of Everglades Community Church are committed to welcoming all people and serving the spiritual needs of our community. Because you have come to our church you have indicated your desire to have your marriage blessed in the Christian tradition. Marriage in the Christian tradition is a sacred covenant made between a man, a woman and God. The ceremony is a worship service in which we thank God for the gift of love, and ask for His Divine blessings as we celebrate the commitment of two people and their families. This pamphlet is to help you in planning your wedding ceremony at our church. Please study this pamphlet before you meet with the pastor. The established guidelines will clarify the use of our facilities, available resources and fees.

Minister: The pastor of Community Church officiates at all wedding ceremonies. In the event the couple wish to have another minister perform the wedding, the pastor of Community Church must be consulted.

Dates and Times: The church calendar is planned well in advance. Therefore, the wedding couple is encouraged to schedule the dates and times of the rehearsal and wedding with the pastor and church office. We ask that you respect the time commitments and be on time for appointments, rehearsals and the ceremony.

Music: The church music staff will be utilized for the wedding. Special musicians or musical selections must be approved in advance by the church's Music Director.

Decorations: When professionals or friends decorate for the wedding, care should be taken to protect the floors and pews from damage by plants, flowers and other decorations. Thumb tacks, screws, or attachments of a permanent nature are forbidden to be used on any church property. Tape cannot be used to attach items to walls, pews, or other furnishings. Church furnishing may not be rearranged. Candles are not to be placed on the piano or organ.

Office Rooms: The pastor's office and business office are available for the wedding party. Care and respect for this space is requested.

Annex: The annex is available for wedding rehearsal dinners and wedding receptions. Arrangements may be negotiated with the ECC Women's Auxiliary for providing meals and/or refreshments. Utilizing a catering service must be approved by the pastor and the Women's Auxiliary chair.

Altar: The sacred appointments on the altar and elsewhere in the sanctuary are not to be moved.

Alcohol and Smoking: The use of alcoholic beverage is prohibited. No alcoholic beverage will be used during the service or on the premises. The pastor may refuse to solemnize any service where any member of the wedding party is under the influence of alcohol. There shall be no smoking in any church facility.

Pictures: Flash pictures may be taken of the processional and the recessional. Flash pictures may not be taken after the ceremony begins. We do ask that your photographer remain in the rear of the church or at the sides behind the guests during the ceremony. The time allotted for pictures after the wedding should not exceed 45 minutes.

Video: Video recording is allowed, but may not interfere with the ceremony. The location of the camera is to be cleared with the pastor.

Sound Equipment: Only a person approved by the pastor may operate the sound system.

Rice, Bird Seed & Confetti: No rice, bird seed or confetti may be used on the church property. Bubbles are an appropriate substitute and may be used in the fellowship hall and outside.

Deposit: A deposit of \$100 is required to reserve the church for a wedding. The deposit may be forfeited in the event of a wedding cancellation. The deposit will be refunded the week following the ceremony, providing the wedding stayed within the time allotted and there was no damage to church property.

Fees:

Deposit.....	\$100
Minister.....	\$200
Pianist/Organist.....	\$100
Soloist.....	\$100
Audio Tech.....	\$ 75

Sanctuary:

Members.....	\$0
Non-members.....	\$100

Annex:

Members.....	\$ 50
Non-members.....	\$ 75

All fees are to be paid 10 days prior to the rehearsal/wedding. The fees are based upon the assumption that the rehearsal will last no longer than one hour, the wedding and picture taking will last no longer than 1 ½ hours and the reception will last no longer than three hours. The rehearsal and wedding will begin at the time announced. An additional fee will be assessed for use of the facility and custodian if these time limits are exceeded. The bridal couple is financially accountable for any damage to the church.

Peace and Blessing,
Reverend Dr. Bob N. Wallace
Pastor

Everglades Community Church
P.O. Box 177
Everglades City, Florida 34139

Guidelines for Weddings at Everglades Community Church



*Everglades Community Church
301 S. Copeland Ave.
Everglades City, Florida 34139*

(239) 695-4787

communitychurch@earthlink.net

