

## SUGGESTED READINGS

### *Old Testament*

Genesis 1:26-28	Woman and man created in God's image
Genesis 2:18-24	Companionship rather than loneliness
Proverbs 3:3-6	Loyalty and faithfulness written on the heart
Song of Solomon 2:10-13	The voice of the beloved
Song of Solomon 8:6-7	Many waters cannot quench love
Isaiah 63:7-9	God's steadfast love lifts up the people
Jeremiah 31:31-34	The new covenant of the people of God

### *Psalm*

67	May God be merciful to us and bless us
100	We are God's people
117	The steadfast love of the Lord
121	The Lord keeps watch over you
127	Unless the Lord builds the house
128	Happy are they who follow in God's ways
150	Let everything that has breath praise the Lord

### *New Testament*

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39	If God is for us, who is against us?
Romans 12:1-2, 9-18	A living sacrifice and genuine love
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13	The greatest gift is love
Ephesians 3:14-19	The greatest of Christ's love
Ephesians 5:1-2	Live in love, as Christ loved us
Philippians 4:4-9	Rejoice in the Lord always
Colossians 3:12-17	Clothed in gifts of God
1 John 3:18-24	Let us love in truth and action
1 John 4:7-16	Let us love one another for love is of God

### *Gospel*

Matthew 5:1-10	The Beatitudes
Matthew 5:14-16	You are the light, let your light shine
Matthew 7:24-27	Build on the rock
Matthew 19:3-6	What God has united must not be divided
Matthew 22:35-40	Love, the greatest commandment
Mark 10:6-9	The wedding at Cana
John 15:9-17	Love one another as I have loved you

# Wedding Manual

## English Lutheran Church



1509 King Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

608-784-9335

[www.englishlutheran.org](http://www.englishlutheran.org)

## DECORATIONS

You will consult with your Wedding Coordinator regarding decorations. Flower stands, altar candles, candelabras, unity candle holder & lighters are available for your use. If any flower petals are to be strewn in the aisle, you must use silk flowers and purchase an aisle runner. There are approximately 375 chairs in the sanctuary. This number may vary with the church season, as well as the length of the aisle. Your coordinator will have this information. **Outside**, you are not allowed to use any items that would require custodial cleanup, i.e. birdseed, rice, etc. If you intend to leave any wedding flowers for the weekend church services, please inform the church staff so they can acknowledge your contribution in the church bulletin. All wedding decorations are to be removed within an hour following the service.



## PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOTAPING

Pre-wedding Sanctuary photography must be complete one half hour before the wedding service is to begin. Post wedding Sanctuary photos for Saturday weddings must be completed by 4:00 PM. **No flash photography is allowed during the service.** Any video equipment set in the front of the Sanctuary is to be stationary and operated by remote, otherwise it is allowed only along the back, and partially up the side aisles. Please review the “Photographer’s Instructions” (included) before giving to your photographer.



## BULLETINS

If you would like your wedding bulletins typed and printed in our church office, please contact the church office staff prior to ordering. A draft of your bulletin will need to be given to the office staff two weeks prior to the wedding. Bulletins can be purchased at religious book stores, on line and at printing companies, keeping in mind, special orders may take two weeks to receive. Sample bulletins are available in the church office. Other appropriate bulletins may be used. **Please include the following in your bulletin:**

**“This is a religious ceremony, please do not take photographs.”**

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding at English Lutheran Church. We are very happy to be part of this special day in your lives. As you begin this journey, English Lutheran Church wishes to surround you with prayer and best wishes.

We encourage you to faithfully participate in the resources the church has to offer including regular worship, Holy Communion, and church activities. When you worship and pray together you will experience God’s love and faithfulness.

Please read through this booklet, it is your resource for helping plan a Christian wedding service at English Lutheran.

For any further questions, please contact:

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English Lutheran Church Wedding Coordinator

“But I am among you as one who serves.”

Luke 22:27

**Please Note:**  
**COVID 19 safety protocols may affect your wedding.**  
**Please contact the church office with questions.**

## ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH WEDDINGS

### Be devoted to one another in love. (Romans 12:10)

*Marriage is a gift from God. It is a way of intentionally living a deep relationship with your spouse and Jesus Christ and begins with a marriage ceremony where Christ is the center. Wedding ceremonies are first and foremost a worship service, which celebrates your marriage. The church plans wedding ceremonies to reflect God's love for us, and your love for each other, with input from the couple.*



## PASTORAL MEETINGS & PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELING

It is the practice at English Lutheran Church for the officiating pastor to meet with couples prior to their wedding day. The initial visit provides the pastor and the couple an opportunity to get to know each other and discuss the multitude of questions couples often have when planning a wedding. At this first meeting, please bring your completed "Marriage Information" form. The subsequent pastoral meeting takes place a month or two before the wedding. At this meeting, the order of service is finalized, the rehearsal scheduled, and last minute questions covered. These tasks may be completed at your final pre-marriage counselling session if an English Lutheran pastor is doing your pre-marriage counseling.

Couples may fulfill their pre-marriage counselling requirement in a couple of different ways. English Lutheran pastors use the Prepare-Enrich, which is an online survey, helps couples identify their unique strengths and potential growth areas in their relationship. Couples normally meet with their pastor two or three times to discuss the results from the survey. On line assessment cost is \$35.

Couples may choose to do their pre-marriage counselling in another community or from another providers. This option is helpful for couples who do not live in the Coulee Region. If this option is your choice, please discuss your plans with your officiating pastor.

## CLERGY

A pastor of the congregation is the presiding pastor at all weddings. If you wish to invite another pastor to assist in the ceremony, you will need to discuss this with the presiding pastor. It is appropriate for the presiding pastor to formally invite guest clergy. It is also appropriate to give visiting clergy an honorarium and transportation costs. Initial contact with the pastor is the responsibility of the bridal couple.



## MARRIAGE LICENSE

It is important that you follow the instructions listed in the enclosed pamphlet from the La Crosse County Clerk's Office "Getting Married in Wisconsin?" You will need to call the number listed in the brochure to make an appointment. **Please bring your marriage license and give to your officiating pastor at the time of the rehearsal.** The wedding can not take place without this document. Signing takes place immediately after the recessional. Witnesses must be at least 18 years of age.



## MUSIC

A wedding at ELC is a worship service and all music must be appropriate to worship. All music must be live, and selections must be discussed with English Lutheran's Director of Music before being included in the service. Recorded music is not an option. The music director will assist with appropriate selections. **It is the responsibility of bridal couple to contact this person.** If you intend to use guest musicians, there is a \$50 orientation fee and you will need to notify Trevor DuPey. A "Suggested Music Selections" list has been included.

## ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACTS

### CHURCH OFFICE

	608-784-9335
Website	<a href="http://www.englishlutheran.org">www.englishlutheran.org</a>
Voice Mail	608-784-8876
Pastor Mark Kvale	Ext. 205 <a href="mailto:pastormark@englishlutheran.org">pastormark@englishlutheran.org</a>
Pastor Becky Goche	Ext. 301 <a href="mailto:pastorbecky@englishlutheran.org">pastorbecky@englishlutheran.org</a>
Office Manager Jennifer Jones	Ext. 201 <a href="mailto:jennifer@englishlutheran.org">jennifer@englishlutheran.org</a>
Director of Music Trevor DuPey	608-797-6774 <a href="mailto:trevor@englishlutheran.org">trevor@englishlutheran.org</a>
Maintenance Dane Melby	608-881-1177

### WEDDING COORDINATORS

Carmen Gustafson	608-785-1440 or 608-304-4195 <a href="mailto:c2gust@gmail.com">c2gust@gmail.com</a>
Ann Monson	608-782-7222 or 952-913-7486 <a href="mailto:annmonson56@gmail.com">annmonson56@gmail.com</a>
Karen Newburg	608-788-6312 <a href="mailto:wenkhn@centurylink.net">wenkhn@centurylink.net</a>
Cindy Sahlstrom	608-786-4517 or 608-769-7367 <a href="mailto:Cindy.sahlstrom@gmail.com">Cindy.sahlstrom@gmail.com</a>

### SUGGESTED TIME LINE FOR APPOINTMENTS, ETC

1. Make an initial appointment and meet with the presiding pastor.  
(Planning & getting acquainted)
2. Complete your on-line Prepare & Enrich Survey.
4. Make subsequent appointments with the pastor.  
(Discuss survey, schedule the rehearsal and finalize.)
5. Make an appointment to meet with the Director of Music.
6. Meet with your wedding coordinator.  
(You will be called to set up an appointment).
7. Meet with the Director of Music to discuss music options.

## FEES

Any unpaid "Contract" fees must be paid in full with one check and received in the church office no later than five (5) days prior to the wedding. Please refer to the church contract for additional details.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Saturday weddings are to be scheduled no later than 2:00 PM.
- Room 104 & the Youth room located in the west hallway can be used as dressings rooms and are available for your use.
- All dressing rooms are to be cleaned up before leaving the building.
- ELC Wedding Coordinators serve as church ministry volunteers and if possible, will be present at both the rehearsal & wedding. Additional details regarding, building usage, the rehearsal and the wedding day will be addressed during the meeting with your wedding coordinator.
- Please be respectful... **No Alcoholic beverages are permitted on any portion of the church property, which includes the parking lot.**



## ENCLOSURES

"Prepare Enrich" Online Assessment  
Building Use Requirements  
"Welcome to English Lutheran Church" Map  
Photographers Information  
Music Selection Suggestions  
Instructions for Ushers (Recommend 3 ushers for weddings with 200 or more guests)  
"Getting Married in Wisconsin" Marriage License Application Information  
Ceremony Planner  
Marriage Information