

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____



Wedding Policies & Procedures

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

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Wedding Policies for Brentwood Baptist Church *(all campuses included)*

Brentwood Baptist Church is one church in multiple locations. Together, our campuses make up one church with one mission. We share resources, staff, and governance so each congregation can effectively reach our Middle Tennessee communities.

We believe marriage was God's idea. It was the Lord who said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make him a helper corresponding to him." (Gen. 2:18) "This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife and they become one flesh." (Gen 2:24) Therefore, Brentwood Baptist Church affirms that the marriage of a man and a woman is sacred in the sight of God and blessed by God.

God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself. Brentwood Baptist Church will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Our pastors, ministers and staff of Brentwood Baptist Church will only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman. The facilities and property of Brentwood Baptist Church (and its campuses) will only host weddings between one man and one woman. We believe this is the way God designed marriage to look.

The wedding ceremony is an important event; there's no denying that! But we also know that it is one day that begins a brand-new adventure for you...now as a married couple! As you plan, prepare and walk towards this new chapter, we are here to answer questions and cheer for you! We believe that the wedding ceremony is a worship service. The information listed below is written with this in mind. It is meant to preserve the sacredness of a wedding ceremony and the beginning of a new life together.

We are so excited you want to get married at one of our campuses and are already praying for you as you begin the planning process. We look forward to walking with you through this process and are excited for what the Lord has in store for you as a couple.

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

Wedding Policies

1. Individuals who are seeking to hold a wedding ceremony at Brentwood Baptist Church or any of her affiliated campuses (all encompassed as “Brentwood Baptist Church”) must be members or regular attendees of Brentwood Baptist Church, or the children or grandchildren of members of Brentwood Baptist Church. Regular attendees of Brentwood Baptist Church must have a letter from a minister of Brentwood Baptist Church that validates their active participation. If no minister is known by the regular attendees, an attendance form obtained from the Event Coordinator must be signed by a Brentwood Baptist Church minister indicating the couple has attended Brentwood Baptist Church at least four (4) times prior to the wedding. Online attendance is not a substitution for attending in person.
2. Couples must complete premarital counseling prior to the wedding and turn in a signed pre-marital counseling form (2) weeks prior to the wedding. Pre-marital counseling can either be completed through attending Building Blocks for Marriage or through sessions with the officiant. All other forms of pre-marital counseling need to be approved by the Campus and Care Pastor.
3. If the couple would like to use a minister outside of the Brentwood Baptist Church family of ministers to perform the ceremony, they should disclose this to the Event Coordinator and/or their assigned Wedding Coordinator as soon as possible. We will permit this to happen under certain circumstances and are happy to discuss this with the couple.
4. To respect the sanctity of the wedding ceremony, couples who are living together prior to marriage must abstain from sexual relations and move apart until the time of the wedding ceremony. For further explanation, please read Senior Pastor Jay Strother’s letter on page 18.
5. All couples (including those living out of town or out of state) should meet the following expectations:
 - The wedding couple or, at a minimum the bride, will meet with the Event Coordinator to review and sign the wedding policies. Surrogates such as the parents of the wedding couple, may not complete this task for the wedding couple, unless the bride attends via video call;
 - The wedding couple or, at a minimum the bride, will meet in person with the Wedding Coordinator to review the wedding plans. Surrogates such as the parents of the wedding couple, may not complete this task for the wedding couple unless the bride attends via video call;
 - The wedding couple will complete all requirements for premarital counseling (see note below).
6. Brentwood Baptist Church Wedding Coordinators and assistants are liaisons between Brentwood Baptist Church and the couple. They are required to attend all wedding events on our campus. Their services are included in the wedding fees for the rehearsal and wedding. Additional fees will apply if the couple wishes to have a rehearsal dinner on Campus or add time to their four hour window. Outside consultants may be employed by the couple, but they must defer to the decisions and the interpretation of the wedding policies of the assigned Wedding Coordinator. Outside consultants must sign the “Outside Consultant Agreement.”

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7. To secure a date on the calendar, all couples must complete a wedding application, meet with the Event Coordinator, and provide a refundable \$500 security deposit. The remaining wedding fee is due at least 60 days before the wedding.
8. Dates and times for weddings, rehearsals and receptions must be calendared through the Event Coordinator. Any requested changes must be made directly to the Event Coordinator no later than 2 months prior to the wedding. Changes that are requested after the two (2) month deadline will be considered but cannot be guaranteed.
9. Once a schedule of events is determined and submitted, it is imperative that all start and end times be observed. This includes pictures pre-ceremony, the ceremony, reception and/or on-site rehearsal dinner.
10. Seating is limited to the number listed in the policy. Fire codes prevent seating in the aisles and hallways of the wedding venue.
11. Guest seating is not allowed in the sound booths. Only photographers, videographers, or musicians are allowed in the sound booths. In addition, only a trained and authorized Brentwood Baptist Church sound tech (included in the wedding fee) is required to operate the audio and video equipment of the church. Substitutions are not allowed.
12. When requested, the elements of the Lord's Supper will be served to the bride and groom only, and not to the wedding guests.
13. No weddings will be allowed during the month of December or during the following holiday weekends: New Years, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, or Thanksgiving. Weddings are not allowed the weekend before or after VBS week. Please inquire with the Event Coordinator for these specific dates.
14. If requested, rehearsal dinners may be held on church property. Space must be reserved through the Event Coordinator. Additional fees may apply.

Wedding and Bridal Photos

If you would like to take wedding and/or bridal photos on a day other than the wedding itself, at Brentwood Baptist Church (inside or outside), please inquire with the Event Coordinator's office. (In some cases, there are other events taking place at Brentwood Baptist Church that will preclude this option.) If a photo shoot is approved, the Brentwood Baptist Church Wedding Coordinator must be present. An additional fee of \$50/hour will be charged for their attendance. The photo shoot cannot last longer than two (2) hours. NOTE: Couples who get married at another location (other than a BWD campus) may not use Brentwood Baptist Church for their wedding photos.

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WEDDING APPLICATION
Brentwood Baptist Church

Wedding Couple Information

Bride

Name: _____

Member: Yes No If yes, what campus? _____

-OR-

Regular Attendee: Yes No If yes, what campus? _____

Current Address:

Home #: _____ Work #: _____ Cell #: _____

E-mail: _____

Groom

Name: _____

Member: Yes No If yes, what campus? _____

-OR-

Regular Attendee: Yes No If yes, what campus? _____

Current Address:

Home #: _____ Work #: _____ Cell #: _____

E-mail: _____

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

Agreements and Understandings

I understand that Brentwood Baptist Church will not perform a wedding ceremony for couples who are currently living together unless they agree to move apart until the time of the wedding.

Bride Initial _____ Groom Initial _____

Brentwood Baptist Church does not allow its facilities to be used in a way that contradicts its faith or by persons or groups holding beliefs that contradict the church's faith.

Bride Initial _____ Groom Initial _____

I understand that the church does not allow its facilities to be generally available to the public, and that my use of these facilities is subject to the executive pastor's approval, which is conditioned in part on my agreement to the requirements in the Wedding Policies which I have read and agree with.

Bride Initial _____ Groom Initial _____

To the best of my knowledge the purpose for which I am requesting use of church facilities will not contradict the church's faith, and I commit to promptly disclose any potential conflict of which I am aware, or become aware, to church staff.

Bride Initial _____ Groom Initial _____

I understand that upon approval of my facilities use request, I will need to provide a security deposit in the amount of \$500 and any other fees required by the church. In addition, other wedding fees must be paid in full at least 60 days before the wedding.

Bride Initial _____ Groom Initial _____

I understand that not adhering to the Wedding Policies may result in the loss of my wedding security deposit.

Bride Initial _____ Groom Initial _____

Brentwood Baptist Church believes that disputes are to be worked out between parties without recourse to the courts. (See-Matthew Chapter 18 and 1 Corinthians Chapter 6.) Accordingly, users of the facility agree to attempt resolution of any disputes through Christian mediation.

Bride Initial _____ Groom Initial _____

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Wedding Detail Information

Minister: _____

Minister Phone: _____ Minister Email: _____

Desired Wedding Ceremony Date and Time: ____/____/____ ____:____ AM PM

Desired Rehearsal Date and Time: ____/____/____ ____:____ AM PM

Note: rehearsals are booked for one hour

Included in the wedding fee is a (4) hour block of time. How would you like that block broken down?

Arrival on Site: _____ Departure: _____

(not to be scheduled before 8:00 AM or after 8:00 PM)

Reception on Site: Yes No

Included in the reception fee is a (6) hour block of time. (This typically overlaps with some of the wedding hours.) How would you like that block broken down?

Arrival on Site: _____ Departure: _____

(not to be scheduled before 8:00 AM or after 8:00 PM)

Desired Wedding Reception Venue: Wilson Hudson (upon approval)

- The wedding and/or reception clean up must be completed by 8:00 p.m., including all members of the wedding party/family/attendees on Saturday evening due to the required set up time for Sunday morning worship.
- Please note: Once a location, date, and time have been selected, no changes can be made two (2) months prior to the wedding. Changes that are requested after the two (2) month deadline will be considered but cannot be guaranteed.
- In order to confirm the date on the calendar, the \$500.00 security deposit, security deposit agreement and wedding application must be completed and turned in to the Event Coordinator.

Signatures of Agreement:

Bride's Name (Please print)

Groom's Name (Please print)

Bride's Signature

Groom's Signature

Date _____

Date _____

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

WEDDING DEPOSIT AGREEMENT
Brentwood Baptist Church

I hereby grant Brentwood Baptist Church permission to use the \$500 security deposit for any damage done by the wedding party of:

Bride and Groom's Name:

on (date of wedding) _____.

Please initial:

_____ I understand any remaining balance will be returned provided all venues are left in the condition they were found (per the facilities use agreement) and wedding policies have been followed.

_____ I understand wedding cancellations sooner than two months prior to the wedding date OR after the Wedding Coordinator has met with the bride, may result in the security deposit not being refunded due to costs incurred.

_____ I understand that any remaining balance to the security deposit will be returned to the person listed on the deposit check unless otherwise listed below.

Name _____

Relationship to Bride (if not the Bride) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Alternative Address for Deposit Return (if necessary):

Please make check to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Office Use:

Check Number _____

Submitted to Business office ____/____/____

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2025 WEDDING FEE AGREEMENT Brentwood Baptist Church

Deposit (Paid Separately; Required for date to be officially held.) \$500.00

Wedding Location:

- Baskin (\$925.00) _____
- Worship Center (\$1125.00) _____

Reception Location:

- Wilson Hall (\$750.00) _____
- Hudson Hall (\$750.00) _____

Rehearsal Dinner:

- Wilson Hall (\$250.00) _____
- Hudson Hall (\$250.00) _____
- Welcome Center (\$250.00) _____

Other Fees:

- Brentwood Minister (\$350.00) _____
- Tech Support for Wedding (\$300.00) _____
- Tech Support for Reception (\$30/hour, \$75 minimum) _____
- _____ _____
- _____ _____

Total: _____ **

*This is to give an initial quote for the cost of the wedding. Additional requests made after your meeting with the Event Coordinator could mean additional costs be added (or subtracted).

**Including Deposit Fee which will be returned to the appropriate person provided all venues are left in the condition they were found and wedding policies followed.

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COMPLETION OF PREMARITAL COUNSELING

This certifies that _____ and _____ have completed the required premarital counseling as required by Brentwood Baptist Church.

Minister (print)

Minister (signature)

Email

Please return this signed form to your Wedding Coordinator or campus Administrative Assistant at least 2 weeks prior to the wedding.

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BASKIN CHAPEL WEDDING POLICIES

BRENTWOOD CAMPUS

1. The Baskin Chapel on the Brentwood campus will be suggested for weddings for an expected attendance of 250 or less.
2. Weddings requested on Sundays will only be considered if all the previous Saturday time slots are filled. If approved, time allowed for Sundays is 2:00-6:00 PM.
Note: Due to the required custodial turnover time from Sunday morning programming, Sunday weddings will be billed at double the normal.
3. Weddings will have a four (4) hour time frame. This includes use of the Bride's room and Groom's room. Requests for longer time periods will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Additional fees may apply.
4. If staging necessitates the moving or rearrangement of technical equipment, furniture, piano, organ, etc., it may only be moved by appropriate Brentwood Baptist Church personnel after consent is received from the correct Brentwood Baptist Church staff. NOTE: Pianos and organs may not have candles placed on them.
5. Chairs and Pews may not be removed from Baskin Chapel.
6. No wedding equipment rental companies may be used.
7. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to make sure all flowers and decorations are removed after the wedding.
8. No nails, screws, tacks, glue, or tape of any kind may be used on the walls, carpet, floors, stage, furniture or woodwork.
9. Except for the unity candle, open flame candles are prohibited on all Brentwood Baptist Church campuses. Lighting of the unity candle will be done under the supervision of the church assigned Wedding Coordinator. A special, protective covering must be placed under the unity candelabra.
10. Except for pew markers, use of wedding decorations or equipment in the aisles is prohibited.
11. Confetti, rice, sparklers, or other materials are not to be used or thrown inside or outside the church building.
12. Only silk petals may be dropped down the main aisle. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to pick up all petals after the ceremony.
13. No aisle runners are allowed.

Cost for this venue can be found on page 10 of this document.

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WORSHIP CENTER WEDDING POLICIES BRENTWOOD CAMPUS

1. The Worship Center on the Brentwood campus is for weddings over 250 attendees, not to exceed 2,000 attendees.
2. Weddings requested on Sundays will only be considered if all the previous Saturday time slots are filled. If approved, time allowed for Sundays is 2:00-6:00 PM.
Note: Note: Due to the required custodial turnover time from Sunday morning programming, Sunday weddings will be billed at double the normal rate with additional cost for orchestra set up removal.
3. Weddings will have a four hour time frame. This includes use of the Bride's room and Groom's room. Requests for longer time periods will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Additional fees may apply.
14. If staging necessitates the moving or rearrangement of technical equipment, furniture, piano, drum cage, etc., it may only be moved by appropriate Brentwood Baptist Church personnel after consent is received from the correct Brentwood Baptist Church staff. NOTE: Pianos and organs may not have candles placed on them.
4. Camera equipment must remain in place.
5. Chairs may not be removed from the Worship Center, stage, or choir loft.
6. No wedding equipment rental companies may be used.
7. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to make sure all flowers and decorations are removed after the wedding.
8. No nails, screws, tacks, glue or tape of any kind may be used on the walls, carpet, floors, stage, furniture or woodwork.
15. Except for the unity candle, open flame candles are prohibited on all Brentwood Baptist Church campuses. Lighting of the unity candle will be done under the supervision of the church assigned Wedding Coordinator. A special, protective covering must be placed under the unity candelabra.
16. Except for pew markers, use of wedding decorations or equipment in the aisles is prohibited.
9. Confetti, rice, sparklers, or other materials are not to be used or thrown inside or outside the church building.
10. Only silk petals may be dropped down the main aisle. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to pick up all petals after the ceremony.
11. No aisle runners are allowed.

Cost for this venue can be found on page 10 of this document.

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RECEPTION POLICIES BRENTWOOD CAMPUS

1. Wilson Hall is available for receptions and should be reserved at the time the wedding is scheduled through the Event Coordinator. Hudson Hall is available with special approval.
2. The capacity of this area should not exceed 1,000 attendees.
3. The wedding party will be required to use Brentwood Baptist Church furniture. No tables or chairs may be rented from an outside company.
4. Any rentals (tablecloths, dishes, etc.) must be delivered and picked up during the time previously agreed upon with the Church (i.e. The wedding or reception time frame window). The church cannot be held liable for keeping items secure. No tables or chairs may be rented from an outside company.
5. No decorations may be affixed to the walls, moveable partitions, stage, or surfaces in the rooms.
6. Open flame candles are prohibited on all Brentwood Baptist Church campuses.
7. Catering plans should be discussed in detail with the Lead Wedding Coordinator.
8. No alcoholic beverages or items containing alcohol are allowed at the reception or any other wedding related activities on the church premises.
9. The wedding party and their guests must refrain from the use of irreverent language, discourteous actions, and smoking inside the church building.
10. To use the church kitchen for catering prep, please contact the Event Coordinator and/or your assigned Wedding Coordinator as soon as you know of the need to work out specifics.
11. Neither the use of electronically based bands, DJs nor dancing is permissible at the reception. Acoustic instruments may be played and song list should be approved by the Brentwood Baptist Church Worship Minister.
12. Use of the piano must be coordinated in advance through the Wedding Coordinator.
13. The wedding party must be off campus by 8:00 p.m. on Saturday evening due to the required set up time for Sunday morning worship.
14. Tech fees for the reception will be an additional \$75.00.
15. The church assigned Wedding Coordinators must be present for receptions.
16. If the space is available, decorating may be done the Friday night before at an additional fee of \$200 and the Wedding Coordinator must be present. Otherwise, all decorating for the reception may be done during the reserved window of time on Saturday (which is separate from the wedding window of time).

Cost for this venue can be found on page 10 of this document.

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REHEARSAL DINNER POLICIES BRENTWOOD CAMPUS

1. Wilson Hall and the Welcome Center are available for rehearsal dinners based on availability and should be reserved at the time the wedding is scheduled through the Event Coordinator.
2. The capacity for these events should not exceed 75 attendees.
3. The wedding party will be required to use Brentwood Baptist Church furniture. No tables or chairs may be rented from an outside company.
4. Any rentals (tablecloths, dishes, etc.) must be delivered and picked up during the time previously agreed upon with Brentwood Baptist Church (i.e. The wedding or reception time frame window). The church cannot be held liable for keeping items secure.
5. No decorations may be affixed to the walls, moveable partitions, stage, or surfaces in the rooms.
6. Open flame candles are prohibited on all Brentwood Baptist Church campuses.
7. Rehearsal dinner catering plans should be discussed in detail with the assigned Brentwood Baptist church Wedding Coordinator.
8. No alcoholic beverages or items containing alcohol are allowed at the rehearsal dinner or any other wedding related activities on church premises.
9. The wedding party and their guests must refrain from the use of irreverent language, discourteous actions, and smoking inside the church building.
10. To use the church kitchen for catering prep, please contact the Event Coordinator and/or your assigned church Wedding Coordinator as soon as you know of the details of your need.
11. The wedding party must be off campus by 9:00 p.m. on Friday evening.
12. Tech needs must be limited to a rolling TV Cart in both spaces. If you find you need this, a request for media support must be submitted through your Wedding Coordinator. Additional fees may apply.
13. The Brentwood Baptist Church Lead Wedding Coordinator must be present for all rehearsal dinners

Cost for this venue can be found on page 10 of this document.

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VOW RENEWAL POLICIES

All Campuses

If you are interested in a Vow Renewal, please contact the Event Coordinator or your Campus Administrative Assistant for more information.

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Regular Attendee Form

Bride's Name: _____ and/or Groom's Name: _____

Date	Campus & Service Attended	Minister
Date	Campus & Service Attended	Minister
Date	Campus & Service Attended	Minister
Date	Campus & Service Attended	Minister

This form must be corroborated and signed by a Brentwood Baptist Church minister on the date of attendance.

What God Has Joined Together

Pastoral Perspective and Policies for Officiating Weddings
Senior Pastor Jay Strother

Congratulations on your engagement and upcoming wedding! As a church, we affirm that marriage is an institution created and blessed by God as a good part of His great plan to bring Him glory, as a picture of the gospel, and to bring you much joy in life. We believe that marriage is defined by God in the Bible as the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime.¹ Because God has ordained the home as the foundational building block of both church and society, as a church and as pastors we care deeply about the nature and health of marriages and families. Therefore, we believe the following principles help us uphold the biblical vision for marriage and at the same time provide the foundation for a healthy and successful marriage.

- 1. Both man and woman are created in God's image and are both equally important to the marriage.** The husband and wife are of equal worth before God since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.²
- 2. Both man and woman must be believers in Jesus Christ to have a Christian Wedding.** The most important decision in a person's life is the decision to place our faith and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation.³ A relationship with God by grace through faith in Christ Jesus is the highest priority in a person's life.⁴ If a man and woman don't share that same unifying priority, the Bible prohibits the union of that couple.⁵ Marriage is a picture of the love of Christ, the groom, for his church, the bride. That picture is not complete if the groom or the bride doesn't know Christ. As a church and as ministers of the gospel, we facilitate only Christian weddings. If either of you is not a believer or if you are unsure of your spiritual condition, it would be our honor to share with you the good news of Jesus with you and answer any questions you might have. If both of you are unbelievers, then would be honored to share with you both God's saving plan for your life. We love because Christ loved us first!⁶
- 3. Out of respect for the gospel and concern for you, we will not officiate the weddings of couples who are living together before marriage.** As a church, we believe the key question for

¹ Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; Psalms 127; Psalms 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6, 15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15, 17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8, 14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.

² Taken from our Statement of Faith, *The Baptist Faith and Message*

³ John 3:16, Romans 6:23

⁴ Ephesians 2:8-10

⁵ 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

⁶ 1 John 4:19

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every marriage is not one of attraction or compatibility but rather: Does this marriage bring glory to God? The Bible teaches that couples should live together as husband and wife only after marriage. Therefore our lifestyle must be consistent with Scripture in order to bring honor and glory to God. Despite popular opinion, living together ignores God's vision for marriage and harms the people involved whom God cares deeply about. Consider the following:

- **We are precious to God.** We matter so much to God that he took what was most precious – his one and only Son – and gave his life for us on the cross. Living together takes what is precious – the groom and wife to-be – and makes them common. In this arrangement the woman is not honored as being a wife; she is simply a woman living with a man. The man is just living with a woman. Research shows that unmarried partners, and especially women, are more vulnerable, less financially secure, and more frequent victims of abuse.⁷ Co-habitation neither honors or builds up a couple in the way God intended.
- **Living together erodes the foundation of a lasting marriage which cannot be easily repaired.** Commitment is the foundation of a successful and godly marriage. Living together in marriage requires a great deal of self-discipline and sacrifice. Living together before marriage demonstrates a lack of self-control and true lasting commitment. Research shows that living together before marriage short-circuits the wise bonding process that God put in place and it is well-documented scientifically that those who live together before marriage have higher rates of divorce and dissatisfaction in their relationships.⁸
- **Sex outside of marriage is always wrong.** Sexual activity with the binding commitments of the persons involved cheapens the relationship. Living together implies that you are sexually active, which damages your witness and the reputation of the church and minister blessing your marriage. Because marriage is a witness to the world of the love of Christ, purity before marriage is important both as an example of self-control and for the successful intimacy of the marriage.

Our motivation for stating these principles and establishing these guidelines is love. True love seeks the best of the other person, and we love you and your fiancée enough that we want you to experience true joy and security that comes from following God's design for a healthy marriage.

Know that we WILL work with couples who are living together without being married under the following conditions:

- (1) We require that all couples receive pre-marital counseling, either through our "Building Blocks for Marriage" course, through a recognized minister or from a biblical counselor. The minister officiating will ensure that couples complete pre-marital counseling and receive special counsel and follow-up regarding co-habitation.

⁷ For examples, see <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2017/march-web-only/three-myths-of-cohabitation.html>

⁸ See <https://www.biblicalcounselingcoalition.org/2018/08/31/the-dangerous-lure-of-living-together-before-marriage/>

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- (2) They move apart until the time of the wedding and abstain from sexual relations until their wedding night. If this brings logistical or financial challenges, we can discuss how to overcome those. If there are children in your home, we can discuss arrangements to be ensure the best interests of your children during this time. We believe that if we honor God with our choices, He will always make a way.

God has offered marriage as a great gift to us for His glory and our joy. We want each marriage to be healthy and successful and that means established a firm biblical foundation from the start. Marriage is so important to God and to us as a church, that we want to settle for nothing less than God's best plan. As Jesus said, "What God has joined together, let no man separate!"⁹

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JAY STROTHER". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Dr. Jay Strother
Senior Pastor¹⁰
Brentwood Baptist Church

⁹ Matthew 19:6

¹⁰ Special thanks to former Senior Pastor Mike Glenn for his helpful article: "They're Living Together and They Want Me to Perform their Wedding: One Minister's Response."

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**FLORIST AGREEMENT
BRENTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**

1. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to make sure all flowers and decorations are removed immediately after the wedding.
2. The Brentwood Baptist Church custodial staff will be responsible for removing and returning all church-supplied equipment to the wedding closet if applicable under the direction of the Brentwood Baptist Church Wedding Coordinator.
3. Use of wedding decorations or equipment in the aisles is prohibited, except for aisle markers.
4. The florist and their employees must refrain from the use of irreverent language, discourteous actions, and smoking inside the building.
5. No food or drink may be taken into the wedding venue, except for a water bottle.
6. Only silk petals may be dropped down the main aisle and it is the responsibility of the wedding party to pick up all petals after the ceremony.
7. If arrangements require watering, please do so prior to putting them into place in the venue.
8. The florist may arrive (30) minutes prior to the reserved (4)-hour time frame and should be scheduled through the Wedding Coordinator.

We agree to comply with the rules and regulations Brentwood Baptist Church regarding decorations, conduct, etc., as described above for weddings.

Company Name _____ Telephone _____

Florist Name (printed): _____

Florist Name (signature): _____

Bride's Name _____

Please return this signed form to your Wedding Coordinator or campus Administrative Assistant at least two weeks prior to the wedding.

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

MUSICIAN AGREEMENT BRENTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

1. Because we believe that the wedding ceremony is a worship service and because the church building is a sacred space, the Worship Minister {at the campus where the wedding is being held} must approve all music used during the ceremony and reception (if it takes place at Brentwood Baptist Church). It is the Bride's responsibility to email the appropriate Worship Minister a complete listing of musical selections which will be used during the ceremony 30 days prior to the wedding date. The list must include song title, composer, and lyrics where applicable, and, if possible, a link to the recording of each song.
2. Use of any Brentwood Baptist musical instruments must be approved through the Worship Minister, specifically if the musician is not on the "Special Event Musicians" list. Any large musical instruments requested to be brought in, should be approved through the Worship Minister.
3. It is the Bride's responsibility to hire any musicians being used for the wedding ceremony and reception. Musicians must consult the Bride directly with any music related questions. A list of "Special Event Musicians" is available from the Event Coordinator or the Music and Worship office. If you desire to use a musician not on the approved list, they must read and sign this form.
4. No decorations may be affixed in any way to any church-owned musical instruments.
5. No church-owned musical instruments may be removed from the church building. Church instruments cannot be moved within the church building without the approval of the Worship Minister.
6. Musicians and any of their employees must refrain from the use of irreverent language, discourteous actions, and smoking inside the building.
7. No food or drink may be taken into the wedding venue, with the exception of a water bottle.

We agree to comply with the rules and regulations of Brentwood Baptist Church regarding Wedding Ceremony Music as described above.

Musician Name _____ Telephone _____

Musician Signature _____

Bride's Name _____

Please return this signed form to your Wedding Coordinator or campus Administrative Assistant at least two weeks prior to the wedding.

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

OUTSIDE CONSULTANT AGREEMENT BRENTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Each wedding held at Brentwood Baptist Church will be assigned a Lead and Assistant Wedding Coordinator. Brentwood Baptist Church Wedding Coordinators will be present during all activities scheduled for the wedding. Coordinators will only communicate with the Bride unless other arrangements are made. This is to protect the understanding between the Bride and Brentwood Baptist Church, and to protect the Bride's wishes for the event.

1. The Outside Consultant will ensure that all communications and special requests with the church go through the Lead Wedding Coordinator.
2. Defer all decisions and interpretation of policies to the assigned Lead Wedding Coordinator. Outside Consultant and Lead Wedding Coordinator will go over the policies of the church and the Consultant will be responsible for ensuring all wedding attendees follow the policies.
3. Provide information on technical needs directly to the Lead Wedding Coordinator, once the Release to Communicate document has been completed.
4. Outside Consultant will discuss with the Lead Wedding Coordinator before moving any wedding equipment, flowers, etc.
5. The Brentwood Baptist appointed Coordinators will be responsible for leading all rehearsals and the running of the wedding day itself unless other plans have been agreed upon prior to the rehearsal date.
6. Ensure that they and their employees refrain from the use of irreverent language, discourteous actions and smoking inside the building.

I agree to comply with the rules and regulations of Brentwood Baptist Church as set forth above.

Outside Consultant Name _____ Telephone _____

Outside Consultant Signature _____

Bride's Name _____

Please return this signed form to your Wedding Coordinator or campus Administrative Assistant at least two weeks prior to the wedding.

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

**PHOTOGRAPHY AGREEMENT
BRENTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**

1. No flash photography will be allowed during the ceremony. The ceremony begins when the bride arrives at the end of the aisle. You may photograph the bride and groom as they recess using a flash.
2. Photographer will make effort to remain in one location during the ceremony out of respect for the sanctity of the service. If movement is needed, please do so appropriately as not to distract.
3. The use of tripods, stands, and other equipment is allowed if their use does not deface any of the church furnishings and does not interfere with the movement in the aisles.
4. The Church Wedding Coordinator can help direct the Photographer regarding suitable locations for setup.
5. Photographer and their employees must refrain from the use of irreverent language, discourteous actions, and smoking inside the building.
6. No food or drink may be taken into the wedding venue, except for a water bottle.
7. All those assisting the Photographer are expected to abide by these same guidelines.

We agree to comply with the rules and regulations of Brentwood Baptist Church regarding Photographer as described above.

Photographer Name _____ Telephone _____

Photographer Signature _____

Bride's Name _____

Please return this signed form to your Wedding Coordinator or campus Administrative Assistant at least two weeks prior to the wedding.

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

**VIDEOGRAPHY AGREEMENT
BRENTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**

1. Video recording is permitted but is not provided by Brentwood Baptist Church.
2. The Brentwood Baptist Church Wedding Coordinator can advise your Videographer to suitable locations in the church.
3. Out of respect for the sanctity of the wedding ceremony, Videographer will make an effort to remain in one location during the ceremony. If movement is needed, please do so appropriately as not to distract.
4. The use of tripods, stands, and other equipment is permitted if their use does not deface any church furnishings.
5. The use of any existing church video equipment is not permitted.
6. Videographer and their employees must refrain from the use of irreverent language, discourteous actions and smoking inside the building.
7. No food or drink may be taken into the wedding venue, except for a water bottle.

We agree to comply with the rules and regulations of Brentwood Baptist Church regarding Videography as described above.

Videographer Name _____ Telephone _____

Videographer Signature _____

Bride's Name _____

Please return this signed form to your Wedding Coordinator or campus Administrative Assistant at least two weeks prior to the wedding.

Wedding of: _____ Wedding Date: _____

CATERING AGREEMENT BRENTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

1. No decorations may be affixed to the walls, moveable partitions, stage, or surfaces in the rooms. Signage or decorations pertaining to church business will not be removed from any location within the church.
2. Except for the unity candle, open flame candles are prohibited on all Brentwood Baptist Church campuses.
3. No alcoholic beverages or items containing alcohol may be served at the reception or any other wedding related activities on the church premises.
4. Lead Wedding Coordinators must be present for receptions and/or rehearsal dinners. No exceptions.
5. The caterer and their employees must refrain from the use of irreverent language, discourteous actions and smoking inside the building.
6. The caterer may arrive at the beginning of the reserved 6-hour wedding reception time frame to begin set up.
7. Absolutely no food or drink is to be taken into the wedding ceremony venue, except for a water bottle
8. The use of all church buildings for wedding activities must be concluded and cleaned up, with everyone out of the building no later than 8:00 pm.
9. **For Brentwood campus only:** To use the church kitchen for catering, please contact the Event Coordinator at least 60 days prior to the wedding. Additional fees may be incurred.

We agree to comply with the rules and regulations of Brentwood Baptist Church regarding decorations, conduct, etc., as described above for weddings and receptions.

Caterer Name _____ Telephone _____

Caterer Signature _____

Bride's Name _____

***THIS IS FOR ANY AND ALL CATERING REQUESTS (I.E. REHEARSAL DINNERS AND RECEPTIONS)**