

# Cornerstone Wedding Policy

- CORNERSTONE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is a Christ-centered body of believers. We believe that marriage is a holy institution, ordained from God from the beginning in the garden.
- We believe that Christian marriage is a commitment between one man and one woman, founded on a commitment to Jesus Christ. Therefore, those joined in this union are ones who expressed their faith in Jesus Christ and who ordinarily are Cornerstone members.
- The purpose of marriage, its sanctity and the depth of the required commitment were reemphasized by Jesus Christ, who instructed that the two become one flesh.
- We believe that wedding services are worship services before God, conducted in His honor according to His Word. We seek to please the Lord in these services, both for the joy of worshiping God in celebration, and to ask for the Lord to bless the marriage.
- As a member of the EPC, Cornerstone endorses our denomination's statement affirming a traditional, Biblical definition of marriage. See below for a full detailed article written by the EPC.
- Weddings cannot be scheduled after 4:00 PM.
- Please contact the Cornerstone office for further information regarding Wedding Policies at Cornerstone, including further details about scheduling and applicable fees.



## EPC reaffirms biblical definition of marriage

Due to the most recent pronouncement of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to redefine marriage, we in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church reaffirm our position on Christian marriage. We hold to the biblical standard of marriage, which is that it is a formal and sacred covenant between one man and one woman for life.

Further, to clarify our relationship among the diverse Presbyterian denominations, the EPC is a completely independent, separate, and unrelated denomination from the PC(USA) and shares no mutual identity, missions, or holdings.

Our unquestionable commitment to this biblical definition of marriage is undergirded by our belief that God ordained marriage for a number of purposes. These include His glory; intimate human companionship and mutual assistance; bearing, nurturing, and training of children; promoting societal stability; and affirming the proper context for human sexuality.

The EPC is firmly rooted in the Reformed tradition and orthodox theology. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the infallible Word of God, the final authority on all issues to which it speaks. Therefore, our attitudes and behaviors are to be judged in the light of the Bible, rather than the Bible being reinterpreted, modified, or overturned by current cultural trends.

The PC(USA) announcement comes after its General Assembly and a majority of its presbyteries approved an amendment to their *Book of Order*. That amendment changes the definition of marriage to “a unique relationship between two people, traditionally a man and a woman” and permits its ministers to officiate same-sex unions in its churches.

We grieve for our brothers and sisters in the PC(USA) who have chosen to submit to culture rather than to abide by God’s Word. We stand with numerous other evangelical, conservative, and traditional Christians from many branches of the Christian faith tree in our belief in biblical marriage.