



### **Clergy Fee**

Clergy fee for non-members is \$200.00. There is no set clergy fee for members, however it is traditional to give the officiant an honorarium as a special thank you.

### **Organist / Keyboardist Fee**

The following are available by request:  
*Jane Cannon (Piano & Vocal)..... 372-8391*  
*Nathan Johnson (Piano & Organ)649-2015*  
*Keith Eiser (Piano & Organ)(513)813-1653*

A fee of \$200 is requested. Additional instrumentalists, soloists and other musicians are available upon request and for a fee of \$100.

### **Maintenance Fee**

Because of special set up, clean up and sound technician services a fee of \$50.00 is requested for all weddings.

### **Worship Slide Preparation Fee**

If requested or required is \$100

As a member congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, St. Michael Lutheran Church is consistent with the Synod's beliefs on marriage. We believe that marriage is a sacred union of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24-25), and that God gave marriage as a picture of the relationship between Christ and His bride the Church (Eph. 5:32). The official position of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as set forth in 1998 Res. 3-21 ("To Affirm the Sanctity of Marriage and to Reject Same-Sex Unions"), is that homosexual unions come under categorical prohibition in the Old and New Testaments (Lev. 18:22,24; 20:13; I Cor. 6:9-10; I Tim. 1:9-10) as contrary to the Creator's design (Rom. 1:26-27). These positions and beliefs can be found on the LCMS website, along with other statements, papers and reports on the subject of homosexuality and same-sex civil unions and "marriage." Our staff will not officiate over any marriages inconsistent with these beliefs, and our church property may not be used for any marriage ceremony, reception or other activity that would be inconsistent with our beliefs and this policy.



St. Michael Lutheran Church  
7211 Oakland Drive  
Portage, MI 49024-4151  
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[www.mightymessengers.org](http://www.mightymessengers.org)

# St. Michael Lutheran Church



*For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife...*

*Genesis 2:24*

## *Wedding Policy*

**Rev. Dr. Paul R. Naumann**  
**Rev. Jason Toman**



A Wedding in the church is an act of worship. Two people are not only speaking their vows to one another, but are also recognizing that there is a third partner in their marriage - the Living God. The purpose of a church wedding is to thank and praise God and to petition His blessings upon the couple who solemnize their marriage before Him, be it in the sanctuary or somewhere else.

Ordinarily, those desiring one of our pastors to perform their wedding shall meet with him not only to plan the service but also for premarital counseling. The pastor shall determine the length and number of the sessions and also reserves the right to refuse the request for performing the marriage if the premarital counseling demonstrates that the marriage would be inadvisable.

Since the marriage ceremony in the church is an act of worship, the following shall be observed:

☞ Additional ornamentations and decorations of the chancel beyond the unity candle (only the stanchion is available from the church) is discouraged since the chancel is already appropriate for worship. However, bouquets of flowers are permitted and can be placed on the many stands that we have available for them. The color of the altar paraments shall be that season in which the wedding occurs.. Ordinarily nothing shall be placed upon the altar beyond what is there already.



☞ Couples should meet with the organist or church musician to select music from material appropriate for worship, consulting also with the pastor as necessary. If there are special musicians, they shall do the same.

☞ Flash photography that causes a distraction is not allowed after the invocation and prior to the benediction. Videography is permitted as long as it causes no distraction.

Before or after the ceremony, the wedding party may pose for any number of pictures, and various portions of the service could be reenacted for a picture if desired. Ordinarily the licenses will be signed prior to the picture taking, and as a courtesy to the pastor, pictures that involve him should be taken early in the picture taking session.

☞ If couples wish a white runner for the aisle, they may purchase a disposable one or rent it from a florist but the church does not have one to provide.

☞ Since Lent is a penitential season for Christians, ordinarily weddings are not performed from the time of Ash Wednesday through Good Friday.

☞ Ordinarily small children serving in the wedding party as flower girls or ring bearers should be at least 4 years old and must be present at the rehearsal for practicing their role.

☞ No rice, confetti, bird seed, etc., is to be used inside or outside of the building. Rooms for the wedding party to dress are available. Those in the wedding party ought to be at the church at least 1½ hours prior to the start of the wedding.