

First Christian Church

Thank you for inquiring about First Christian Church as the place for your wedding. In the church, the marriage ceremony is a service of worship where you publicly exchange vows of love and commitment to each other. We hope the brief information here will be helpful to you as together you plan an occasion of beauty and great joy, a time when you truly feel the blessing of God as you begin your life together.

The beautiful stained glass behind the altar, set in stonework, enhances any color theme that might be chosen for your wedding. The photo below gives you an idea, but it truly must be seen to appreciate the richness of this work.



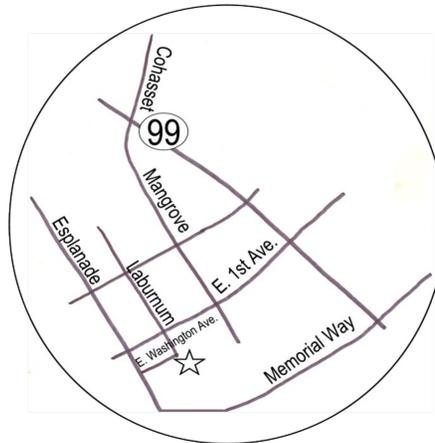
In addition to the use of the sanctuary, there is a large fellowship hall that can be utilized for a reception after your wedding; however, alcoholic beverages of any kind are not permitted in the church buildings or on church property.

Please feel free to contact the church office (530-343-3727) to arrange for a tour of the facilities and to ask any additional questions you might have. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8a.m.–noon, and 1–2:30p.m.



Directions:

From Hwy 99 North or South get off on the East 1st Ave. exit in Chico. Turn West (left from 99 north or right from 99 south). Continue west through Mangrove Ave. to the third street, Laburnum. Turn left and proceed for two short blocks. You will see the church in front of you.



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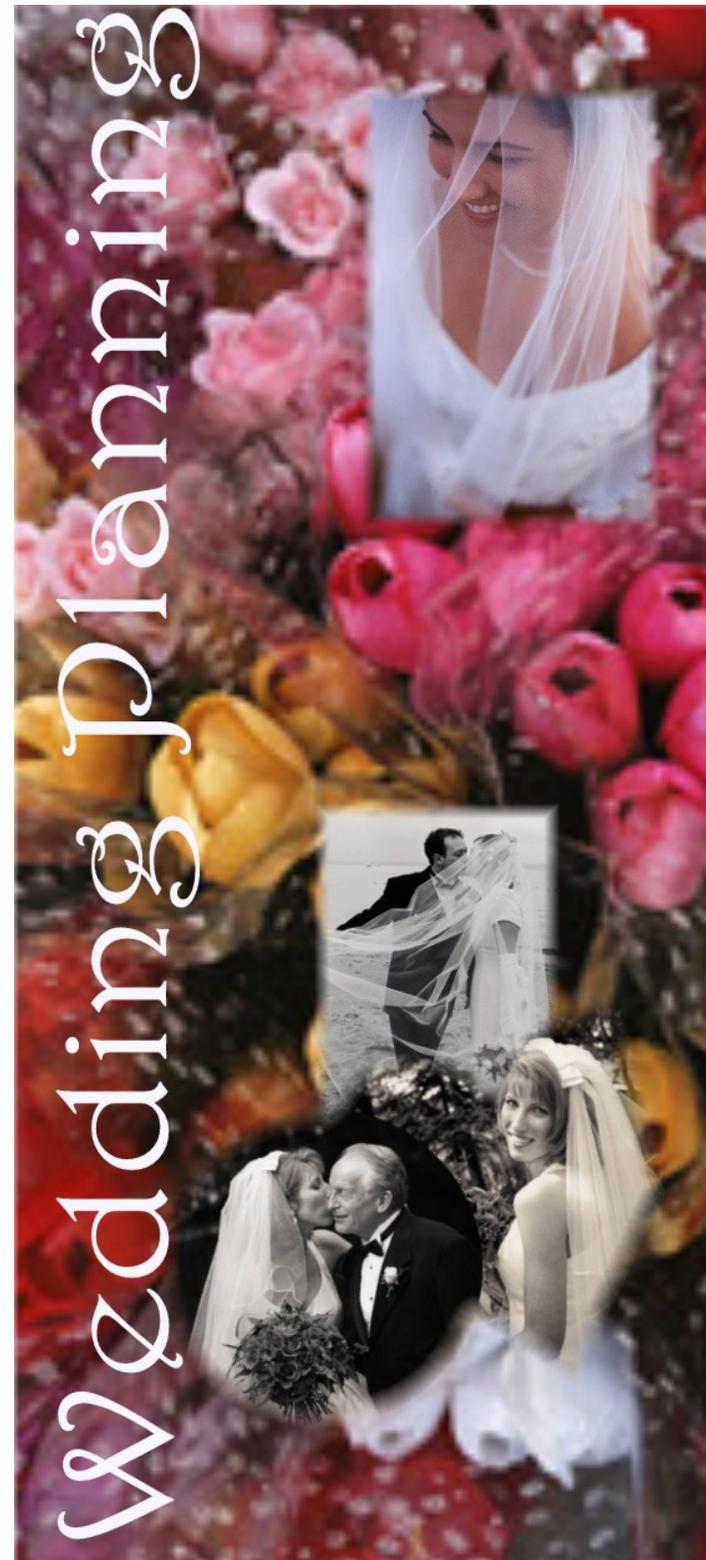
295 East Washington Ave.

Chico, California 95926

Phone: 530-343-3727

Email: disciples@maxinet.com

Website: www.fccchico.com



Minister

It is required that one of our ministers officiate at all of the weddings at our church; however we realize that there may be a significant clergy-person from your past that you wish to have included in the ceremony and we are happy to accommodate as much as possible. Please let us know at the onset of the planning process if you desire to have another clergy involved in the ceremony.

Church Membership

It is not a requirement that you be a member of First Christian Church to have your wedding in our sanctuary. If, however, you would like more information about our church we would be happy to share with you about the Disciples of Christ denomination, or you may visit the denomination website at www.disciples.org, or our own church website at www.fccchico.com

Scheduling Your Wedding

The first step in scheduling a wedding at First Christian Church is to contact our office and find out if the date is available. Next, would be to find out the availability of our pastoral staff. Then we have some informational paperwork that needs to be completed, and finally, when you turn in your paperwork we require a \$100.00 non-refundable deposit to secure the date.

Wedding Hostess

When your wedding date has been put on the calendar our Wedding Hostess will be contacted. The purpose and function of the Wedding Hostess is to assist with the rehearsal and to ensure that all of the plans go smoothly during the ceremony so this truly is a day of wonderful memories.

Some also choose to hire a wedding consultant for the overall planning of their wedding, and our Wedding Hostess will be happy to work with them; however, during the ceremony the minister and Wedding Hostess will be in charge of directing the proceedings.

Use of the Church

- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the church building or on church property. Also, members of the wedding party are expected to abstain from drinking alcohol before the wedding.
- Smoking is not permitted in any part of the church building.
- Flash photography is not permitted during the wedding itself, though pictures using available light are permitted from the rear balcony. Please discuss this with the minister. Pictures taken before and after the ceremony can certainly employ the use of flash enhancement. Videotape is allowed and the Wedding Hostess will discuss policy.
- The church's pipe organ requires specialized training. We have a list of those who are available to play for weddings. The grand piano is available if you have a friend or relative who you would like to have play for your wedding.
- You are responsible for contacting the organist to help select music for your wedding and this is included in the organist's fee.
- Wedding and rehearsal times will be arranged with the pastor and we expect members of the wedding party to be prompt.
- The church does not permit the throwing of rice or bird seed at the conclusion of a wedding.
- You will be given an itemized listing of charges for your wedding as well as information regarding making out checks for individuals involved in the ceremony. All fees are payable no later than the rehearsal day.
- The Wedding Hostess will work with you on the decorations that are allowed in the sanctuary.

Cost Information

- Pastor's fee.....\$200.00
Counseling, rehearsal and wedding ceremony
- Use of Sanctuary.....\$240.00
- Use of Chapel or Fireside Room\$90.00
- Use of Koinonia Hall.....\$335.00
Does not include use of kitchen
- Organist/Pianist\$150.00
- Rehearsal with soloist.....\$25.00/hr.
- Wedding Hostess.....\$85.00
- Custodian.....\$40.00
Additional \$20/hour beyond 2 hour minimum
- Candelabra candles\$15.00
- Soloist.....\$35-50.00
Depends on number of songs sung
- Sound System Personnel.....\$75.00

Considerations in Planning Your Wedding

- Counseling requirements
- Photograph/Video taping restrictions and requirements
- Music, instruments, soloist(s) restrictions and requirements
- Sound reinforcement available, capabilities
- Allowable decorations
- What does the church have available and what will have to be rented
- Reception facilities available, restrictions and requirements
- Parking availability
- Church easily found by those outside of area
- Contracts and cancellation policy
- Friendly and easy to work with, or rigid and inflexible