



## Wedding Policy

Dear Bride and Groom:

On behalf of FBW, we would like to express our congratulations on your decision to join God in a covenant relationship with your future spouse. Our prayer is that you will have a God-centered marriage and that the blessings of our Lord will accompany you both always. This packet has been designed to assist you with the planning and organizing of your wedding day. Should you have any questions regarding a wedding at FBW, please email a Wedding Coordinator at [facilities@fbw.church](mailto:facilities@fbw.church). In order to schedule a wedding at FBW, a bride and groom must affirm and adhere to the FBW Statement of Basic Beliefs and Statement of Faith: Marriage and Human Sexuality. (See Appendix A)

### PLANNING

To plan a wedding at FBW, a bride should complete a **Wedding Request Form**. Upon a review of the request, a Wedding Coordinator will contact you to confirm if the date and requested options are available. Before making any public announcement of your wedding plans, wait for a confirmation from your Wedding Coordinator. This will include a confirmation of your date and a down payment. This will help to avoid any scheduling conflicts. FBW has developed this Wedding Packet to guide you through the process. Please download it and be prepared to discuss and complete during your initial meeting with your Wedding Coordinator. Keep a copy of all papers.

### AVAILABLE FACILITIES

The Sanctuary, Chapel, Mall, or Event Hall may be used for church weddings. Please be aware that during extremely hot weather, the Chapel may be difficult to cool down to a comfortable temperature. The Sanctuary, Chapel, Mall, or Event Hall may be used for weddings at most times except Saturday evening, Sunday mornings, and Wednesday evenings; providing such use does not conflict in any manner with previously scheduled services, events or meetings at the church. The Fellowship Hall, Gym, Mall, or Event Hall are available for after-rehearsal activities and receptions for an additional fee. (Please see fee schedule.) Weddings may not be scheduled during holiday periods to avoid conflicts with church activities.

### GENERAL WEDDING POLICIES

Weddings will be conducted under the direction of the FBW Wedding Coordinator. The Wedding Coordinator will be the sole point of contact between the wedding party and FBW. All weddings will be scheduled on a first come, first served basis. Either the Bride or Groom (or parents of the Bride or Groom) must be Members of FBW. Weddings for non-members must be approved by the FBW Pastoral Staff. Approval by FBW Executive Staff is required when using a non-FBW Pastor to officiate the wedding ceremony.

## GENERAL FACILITY POLICIES

All weddings are subject to the [Facilities Usage Agreement](#). Please take the time to review prior to requesting your wedding date. It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to familiarize the members of the wedding party, attendees, and vendors, with all FBW guidelines, requirements, restrictions and other provisions set forth therein. Breakage, damage or theft of any kind of FBW property, equipment or supplies will be invoiced to the renter at replacement cost.

All personal items must be removed from the dressing areas within one hour after the ceremony or before leaving for the reception (if not held at FBW facilities). Only dripless candles (with floor covering) or chase candles may be used in any area of the FBW facilities. Birdseed or rice is prohibited inside or outside the buildings.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

A wedding is a worship service. Members of the wedding party are expected to recognize this and conduct themselves at all times in a manner befitting the atmosphere of a place of worship. Smoking or other use of tobacco is not permitted on FBW property. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on FBW property. Members of the wedding party must refrain from using alcoholic beverages prior to and during any activity held at the church. No alcoholic beverages may be present or served on the church premises at any time. This includes the reception. It is suggested that these rules be called to the attention of all members of the wedding party.

Dancing is not permitted on premises with the exception of Bride/Groom, Father/Daughter, and Mother/Son dance. Provocative attire or clothing depicting drugs/alcohol, satanic, or sexually explicit materials are not to be worn on the premises. Users violating dress code will be asked to change in order to remain on premises. Explicit or blasphemous language or music will not be permitted on premises. No firearms permitted on premises with the exception of law enforcement officers.

## FINANCIAL POLICIES

**Deposits:** A \$500.00 minimum deposit is required to schedule your date. A higher deposit may be required after a review of your Wedding Packet details. Your initial consultation to review the wedding packet should take place within 30 days following your deposit.

**Fees:** All fees are outlined in the Wedding Fees Schedule. Additional fees for optional services may apply. All fees are *estimated* until your Wedding Packet is finalized. Changes in set-up, clean-up, optional services or actual damages from your event could impact your final invoice.

**Payments:** FBW accepts cash, credit cards, checks and online payments. FBW office hours are: Monday-Thursday are from 8am-5pm.

**Online payments** can be made at: <https://pushpay.com/pay/fbcwylie>

**Please change the 'Giving Type' to 'Other' and enter THE NAME OF YOUR EVENT in the 'Memo' line**

Final payment is due 30 days prior to your wedding date. If full payment is not received 30 days in advance of your wedding date, your date may be cancelled.

Refunds: Cancellations occurring more than 30 days from the event date will be refundable 50% of their minimum deposit (excluding refundable deposit). Cancellations occurring 30 days or less from the event date will forfeit their minimum deposit back (excluding refundable deposit).

### ROLE OF WEDDING COORDINATOR

The Wedding Coordinator is the church liaison who will be assisting you in making this a memorable experience. She is also responsible for seeing that church policies and procedure are followed during the rehearsal and wedding. As soon as your Wedding Packet is complete, the Coordinator will schedule one of three meetings to help plan your special day. The Coordinator will be responsible for directing the rehearsal and the actual wedding ceremony.

Another important role of the Wedding Coordinator is directing communication within the Pastoral and Campus staff the day of your event. She will coordinate any special requests and preparations that need to be made for the event (i.e., personnel, special equipment, etc.). Any special instructions for audio/video, stage, custodial, flowers, pictures or decorations should first be discussed with the Wedding Coordinator.

### OPTIONAL SERVICES

#### **Officiating Pastor**

FBW is honored to officiate your wedding if needed. Fees vary and can be discussed during your initial consultation. You may request a Pastor online when you complete your Wedding Request Form below.

#### **Sound/Media/Lighting Technician**

A church-approved technician(s) will arrive one and one-half hours prior to the time of the wedding to set up sound equipment needs and to meet vocalists for a sound check. Arrangements for necessary personnel should be made by indicating needs in the Wedding Packet. Fees vary according to type of A/V, length, and venue. These needs will be assessed by the Wedding Coordinator and appropriate personnel enlisted.

#### **Instrumentalist/Vocalist**

Arrangements for an accompanist or vocalist can be requested in the Wedding Packet. Fees vary depending upon the need.

#### **Music**

All music to be played or performed for your ceremony (prelude, music during ceremony, postlude), must be approved by FBW. You will be requested to provide the Wedding Coordinator a list of the music to be played and/or performed for your wedding. Provocative, explicit, or blasphemous music is not allowed to be played at receptions held at FBW.

#### **Event Set-Up and Cleaning**

Wedding and/or Reception event rental fees include set-up and take down of tables and chairs; setting heat and cooling system and making minor adjustments in stage set-up. (Minor stage adjustments must first be approved by the Worship Pastor. Full stage clearings are typically not approved. Fees begin at \$1,000.) Changes to the set-up of the wedding or reception area less than 72 hours before the event will be invoiced a \$250.00 surcharge.

The custodian will be available one hour before the wedding to open doors and will be responsible for locking the building following the ceremony and/or reception. Cleaning is included in the rental of the facility. Excessive cleaning, or damage to the facility following an event, will be invoiced to the Bride at a rate of \$50.00 an hour or actual cost of damages, whichever is greater.

**Please note:** FBW is a Church whose function is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. As such, any request which is deemed inappropriate or contrary to biblical doctrine can and will result in the denial or cancellation of your event. Failure to abide by the FBW Wedding and Kitchen Policies, as well as Facilities Usage Agreement, may result in forfeiture of the deposit and loss of rental privileges in the future. FBW reserves the right to change this Wedding Agreement at any time, for any reason, without advance notice.

### PREMARITAL COUNSELING

FBW would like to partner with you for preparation of your marriage as much as the wedding. A strong, biblical foundation is the best investment a couple can make in their new marriage. FBW would like to encourage couples to review premarital resources together prior to their wedding. In addition, a couple being married by an FBW Pastor will be required to complete premarital counseling and/or resources. The purpose of the premarital counseling includes a review of the meaning of a Christian marriage and the biblical pathway to a lasting marriage. In addition, this will be a time to discuss and plan in detail the actual wedding ceremony.

Most counselling sessions have a minimum of three sessions, lasting two hours in length. Brides and Grooms who are re-marrying, and may have children they are bringing into a marriage, may be requested to complete additional counseling or resources to ensure these situations are foundationally ready for a biblical marriage. All sessions should be completed at least two weeks prior to the wedding. Childcare arrangements will need to be made. No children will be allowed to attend any pre-marital counseling sessions.

The Bible teaches that marriage is a divine union between a man and a woman. In Matthew 10: 7 Jesus said “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and will be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate”. These are the principles of the marriage covenant you and your fiancé will enter into with God at your wedding. Likewise, we also believe Marriage is sacred, “Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled” Hebrews 13:4. Couples who may have taken the step to live together prior to marriage will be asked to separate in the time leading up to their wedding. This will allow a time of repentance and restoration to obedience in the Biblical principles of life God has given to His children.



FBW is excited to partner with Marriage Mentors to offer *I Promise* to engaged couples as part of your premarital resources.

***A look at I PROMISE:***

**Fearfully and Wonderfully Made for Each Other:**

Explore the results of the Uniquely United personality assessment in an effort to value the unique way God has created each individual and how a person's personality impacts the way they approach their relationships.

**Covenant Commitment:**

Understand God's design for marriage and what that means for husband and wife. How do thoughts drive actions? What can couples do to remain committed to their marriage?

**Roles and Responsibilities:**

Avoid unmet expectations and unrealistic entitlements by discussing roles and responsibilities through Biblical lenses. Discover what the Bible has to say about the roles of husband and wife. Understand how your God-given personality equips you best to handle various responsibilities within your marriage.

**Communication:**

Unpack more of the Uniquely United personality assessment in order to fully understand your future spouse's keys and barriers to communication. How can you communicate with your partner in a God-honoring way with understanding of how their personality impacts the way they hear and speak.

**Conflict Resolution and Forgiveness:**

How does your ability to forgive impact your ability to resolve conflict? We tend to look at conflict as a negative interaction, but what if you were to see conflict as a way to grow together through mutual resolution? Learn healthy ways to approach and resolve conflict.

**Wise Stewards:**

A Biblical look at Finances and Sexuality: The world has twisted two of God's greatest blessings. Reclaim a Biblical view of stewardship, understanding God's true design for our finances and sexual relationship. Uncover past experiences and patterns that may prevent you from honoring God in these areas.

**FBW prays that you considering adding *I PROMISE* to your important wedding "checklist". It may be the most important thing you do for your new marriage.**

<http://www.marriagementors.org/premarital>



**WEDDING RENTAL AGREEMENT**

I have received, reviewed and agree to adhere to all First Baptist Wylie’s policies, including but not limited to the Written Statements of Faith (See Appendix A). I have also read and fully understand the Wedding Policy and the [FBW Facilities Usage Agreement](#) and Kitchen Agreement (if applicable) and hereby expressly agree to adhere to all guidelines, requirements, restrictions and other provisions set forth therein.

I request to use the church facilities for the express purpose indicated above and will utilize said facilities in a manner consistent with these stated purposes. To the best of my knowledge, I am not aware that the reserving individual, group, or organization holds, advances, or advocates beliefs that conflict with the church’s faith or moral teachings.

It is agreed and understood that this contract shall remain in force only for the term in which I comply with First Baptist Wylie’s policies, as set forth herein, and as long thereafter as I comply. I understand that all facilities privileges automatically terminate if I engage in any conduct or avocation of conduct that stands in contradiction to First Baptist Wylie’s Written Statements of Faith as set forth herein. I agree to notify First Baptist Wylie’s authority immediately upon the knowledge that church facilities or properties are being utilized in a manner inconsistent with church policies. I submit to the designated authority of First Baptist Wylie to resolve any disputes relating to church property or facility use.

The renter, and fiancé, along with event guests and any contracted labor, will hold First Baptist Wylie, a church for the cities, harmless for any loss, damage or injury to person or property resulting from the use, occupancy, or possession of the premises. Renter agrees to payment schedule set forth in this rental agreement. Final payment must be made to Wedding Coordinator no later than 30 days prior to Wedding/Reception. In the event of default on payment schedule, wedding is subject to loss of reservation and deposit is subject to refund policy.

Cancellations occurring more than 30 days from the event date will be refunded 50% of their minimum deposit (excluding refundable deposit). Cancellations occurring 30 days or less from the event date will forfeit their minimum deposit back (excluding refundable deposit).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Renter

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPENDIX A

## STATEMENT OF BASIC BELIEFS

We affirm the Holy Bible as the inspired infallible word of God and the basis of our sincerely held beliefs. This Church subscribes to the doctrinal statement of The Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963 and 2000, and changes which may be made later and approved by the Church. We voluntarily band ourselves together as a body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation to lost mankind and to minister to all. The ordinances of the Church are Believer's Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

The Baptist Faith and Message (2000) does not exhaust the extent of our sincerely held beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of the Church faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, the Lead Pastor, in conjunction with the Pastoral Staff, Deacons and Standing Teams of First Baptist Church of Wylie, Texas shall function as the final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

## STATEMENT OF FAITH: MARRIAGE AND HUMAN SEXUALITY

## Preamble

We believe that all matters of faith and conduct must be evaluated on the basis of Holy Scripture, which is our infallible guide (2 Timothy 3:16–17). Since the Holy Bible does speak to the nature of human beings and their sexuality, it is imperative that we correctly understand and articulate what the Bible teaches on these matters.

We are committed to the home and family as set forth in Holy Scripture. We believe God has ordained and created marriage to exist between one man and one woman, with absolute marital fidelity. The Bible sets forth specific home and family values, which include the distinct roles of husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, and children. It is our firm conviction that we uphold the dignity of each individual as we embrace the unchanging and longstanding principles of scriptural truth.

## Religious Beliefs

Based on Holy Scripture and the constant moral teaching of First Baptist Church Wylie, we believe:

- **Marriage** — First Baptist Church Wylie defines marriage as the permanent, exclusive, comprehensive, and conjugal “one flesh” union of one man and one woman, intrinsically ordered to procreation and biological family, and in furtherance of the moral, spiritual, and public good of binding father, mother, and child. (Genesis 1:27-28, Genesis 2:18-24, Matthew 19:4-9, Mark 10:5-9, Ephesians 5:31-33)
- **Sexual Immorality** — First Baptist Church Wylie believes that sexual acts outside marriage are prohibited as sinful. Consequently, First Baptist Church Wylie members must resist and refrain from any and all sexual acts outside marriage — including but not limited to adultery, fornication, incest, zoophilia, pornography, prostitution, masturbation, voyeurism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, sodomy, polygamy, polyamory, sologamy, or same-sex sexual acts. (Exodus 20:14, Leviticus 18:7-23, Leviticus 20:10-21, Deuteronomy 5:18, Matthew 15:19, Matthew 5:27-28, Matthew 15:19, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-13, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Hebrews 13:4, Galatians 5:19, Ephesians 4:17-19, Colossians 3:5)
- **Sexual Identity** — First Baptist Church Wylie believes that God created mankind in His image: male (man) and female (woman), sexually different but with equal personal dignity. Consequently, First Baptist Church Wylie members must affirm their biological sex and refrain from any and all attempts to physically change, alter, or disagree with their predominant biological sex — including but not limited to elective sex-reassignment, transvestite, transgender, or non-binary “genderqueer” acts or conduct. (Genesis 1:26-28, Romans 1:26-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
- **Sexual Orientation** — First Baptist Church Wylie believes that God created and ordered human sexuality to the permanent, exclusive, comprehensive, and conjugal “one flesh” union of man and woman, intrinsically ordered to procreation and biological family, and in furtherance of the moral, spiritual, and public good of binding father, mother, and child. Consequently, First Baptist Church Wylie members must affirm the sexual complementarity of man and woman and resist any and all same-sex sexual attractions and refrain from any and all same-sex sexual acts or conduct, which are intrinsically disordered. (Genesis 1:27, Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:4-6, Mark 10:5-9, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 5:25-27, Revelation



19:7-9, Revelation 21:2)

- **Sexual Redemption** — First Baptist Church Wylie believes that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and should seek redemption through confession, repentance, baptism, and faith in Jesus Christ. Consequently, First Baptist Church Wylie members welcome and treat with respect, compassion, and sensitivity all who experience same-sex attractions or confess sexually immoral acts but are committed to resisting sexual temptation, refraining from sexual immorality, and conforming their behavior to First Baptist Church Wylie's Statement of Faith. (Matthew 11:28-30, Romans 3:23, Ephesians 2:1-10, I Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 2:17-18, Hebrews 4:14-16)
- **Celibacy** — First Baptist Church Wylie believes that Holy Scripture grants two life-enhancing options for human sexual behavior: (1) the conjugal "one flesh" marital union of one man and one woman, and (2) celibacy. Either is a gift from God, given as He wills for His glory and the good of those who receive and rejoice in His gift to them. Celibacy and faithful singleness is to be celebrated and affirmed within the First Baptist Church Wylie. (Genesis 1:27-28; 2:18, 21-24; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:5-8; Hebrews 13: 4; 1 Corinthians 7:1-8; Matthew 19:12; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Romans 12:10; 1 Timothy 5:1-2)

## Holy Scripture

### Marriage and Human Sexuality

- Genesis 1:26-28
- Genesis 2:18-24
- Genesis 19:5-10
- Exodus 20:14
- Leviticus 18:7-23
- Leviticus 20:10-21
- Deuteronomy 5:18
- Judges 19:22-24
- Matthew 5:27-28
- Matthew 15:19
- Matthew 19:4-9
- Mark 10:5-9
- Romans 1:26-27
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-13
- 1 Corinthians 5:21
- Galatians 5:19
- Ephesians 4:17-19
- Ephesians 5:25-27
- Ephesians 5:31
- Colossians 3:5
- 1 Thessalonians 4:3
- Hebrews 13:4
- 1 Timothy 1:8-10
- Jude 1:7
- Revelation 19:7-9
- Revelation 21:2

### Pastoral Care

- Matthew 11:28-30
- Romans 3:23
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Hebrews 2:17-18
- Hebrews 4:14-16

### Application

All of our members, employees, and volunteers must affirm and adhere to this Doctrinal and Religious Absolute statement on marriage and human sexuality to qualify for involvement with the ministry. This is necessary to accomplish our religious mission, goals and purpose. Behavior or counter-witnessing that does otherwise will impede and burden our integrity and religious mission. We believe that God's grace can wipe the slate of guilt and sin, though the consequences are still incurred.

### Authority

The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God, acting as the source of authority over morality, our beliefs, Christian lifestyle and conduct. The Lead Pastor, in conjunction with the Pastoral Staff, Deacons and Standing Teams are charged with the ministerial responsibility of Biblical interpretation and promulgating religious policy. The Lead Pastor, in conjunction with the Pastoral Staff, Deacons and Standing Teams will determine life application as well as final matters relating to First Baptist Church Wylie theology, philosophy, Christian practice, faith, divine truth, morality, and theological and doctrinal resolutions.