

# Marriage Preparation Course

You will explore various aspects of your relationship and the expectations that you hold. Couples are asked to attend one of the courses offered.

It is run by trained lay people in the congregation, in a relaxed and informal atmosphere and is designed to strengthen and affirm you in your relationship.

The course includes some exercises designed to assist in preparing couples for marriage.

R350.00 per couple which includes registration and course material.

The course will be hosted in the West View Sanctuary:

- 8 March – 5 April (Tuesdays, 7-9pm)
- 14 & 21 May (Saturdays)
- 2 – 30 August (Tuesdays, 7-9pm)
- 8 & 15 October (Saturdays)

For registration forms and more info on Marriage Prep, please contact [manti@westview.org.za](mailto:manti@westview.org.za)

## Weddings

In most churches it is common practice that those involved in the running of a wedding are compensated for their time and skills.

**Weddings held at a venue other than West View:**  
Should the wedding take place at a venue other than West View, the fee for the minister will be **R1 800.00** (The bulk of which is donated to a worthy cause) plus an amount towards travel expenses at **R4.80** per km if the venue is further than a 50km round trip, plus Toll Fees.

**Weddings held at West View:**  
The fee will be **R3 200.00**. This covers imbursements to the marriage officer, technical support, cleaners, parking, security, and the use of the sanctuary.

Included in the fees above is a refundable late start deposit of **R500**. This amount will be forfeited if the ceremony begins more than 30 minutes after the stipulated time.

For registration forms and more information, please contact [lael@westview.org.za](mailto:lael@westview.org.za)

It is requested that payment be made in cash or electronically into our bank account by the Monday prior to the wedding.

Bank details:  
**FNB Eldoraigne 251145**  
Account no. **6203 4307 670**  
Ref: **“Wedding (and both surnames)”**  
Proof of payment to be sent to [lael@westview.org.za](mailto:lael@westview.org.za)

## Planning your Wedding through West View



## Helping you prepare for your life together



## INTRODUCTION

We are delighted that you have chosen West View Methodist Church for your wedding ceremony. We look forward to sharing this important event with you and trust that your involvement with us will lead to your wedding ceremony and marriage being as happy and meaningful as possible. The purpose of this brochure is to enable you to have a better understanding of what lies ahead and thus, what preparations you need to make.

## GETTING STARTED

In order to make arrangements for your wedding, please phone the Church Secretary at the office to confirm the date and time of the service and to make an appointment for an interview with one of the ministers.

The following documents need to be brought along to the **FIRST INTERVIEW**. All documents, including photos, must be submitted 7 days before the wedding.

## MINISTERS WILL UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES BE ABLE TO CONDUCT WEDDING CEREMONIES WHERE THERE ARE OUTSTANDING DOCUMENTS:

- Copies of ID documents of bride and groom;
- Copies of ID documents of the two witnesses that will co-sign on the wedding documents;
- 3 X colour ID size photos of bride & groom;
- If one of you are divorced we need a copy of your final divorce documents. The order must be stamped by "Notary South Africa".
- If one of you are widowed a copy of the death certificate of deceased spouse is required.
- A letter from the lawyer drawing up your Marriage Contract stating how you will be married (ANC, ANC with accrual etc). If this document is not available before the wedding you will be considered being married **In Community of Property**. (see item 8);
- If you are not a South African citizen we will need additional documentation, please enquire from us.
- Minister's fee. (See cost's involved)

At the interview, wedding music, hymns and other special details of the wedding will be discussed with you.

## WEDDING REHEARSAL

A rehearsal will be arranged in the final week before the ceremony. This is to familiarise you with what will happen in the marriage service.

## INFORMATION FOR WEDDINGS @ WEST VIEW

### 1. Floral Arrangements

With regard to floral arrangements for your wedding, these shall be entirely in your hands. You must supply your own vases and oasis. There are flower stands available at the church, but these may not be removed from the church property. The flowers do not need to be left in the church but may be removed immediately after the wedding service. Arrangements must be made with the Church Office as to when you may gain access to the church for the purpose of doing the flowers.

The office is open on Monday to Thursday from 08h00 – 15h30 and on Fridays from 08h00 – 15h00.

### 2. Candles

If you would like to use candles during your ceremony these should be of the non-drip type and prior arrangements must be made with the church secretary.

### 3. Confetti

We request that no confetti be thrown anywhere on the Church premises. Streamers or flower petals are welcome, however.

### 4. Music

Organist - the Church Secretary will provide details of the church organists you may contact to play for your wedding and payment must be settled directly with them. Hymn books are available in the Church. Suitable marriage hymns are from 364 to 373. If you would like any other hymn, please feel free to discuss this with the minister. There are also more modern wedding hymns available.

Solo - if you want a soloist to sing at the wedding, please discuss this with the minister and make arrangements with the organist. Technical support can be arranged by the church office.

## 5. Photography

Photographers may take photographs at the entrance to the church, in the foyer, when the bride and groom enter and exchange rings, and when the register is signed.

Posed photographs may be taken in the Sanctuary after the ceremony.

## 6. Venue

We accommodate up to 460 people in the Sanctuary.

## 7. Video Recordings

Video recordings are permissible provided that no bright lamps are erected in the church and that the person making the recordings remains out of the way of the bridal party and does not move around the church while the ceremony is in progress.

## 8. Ante-nuptial Contract/Accrual System

You need to make a choice concerning the legal property system which is going to apply to your marriage. The choice will determine your property rights during the marriage and especially in the event of death or divorce. You can choose between Community of Property, the Accrual System or an Ante-Nuptial Contract to suit your particular needs. You will need to see a lawyer if you choose one of the last two.

## 9. Verify Marital Status

If either the bride or groom have previously been married, they must verify their marital status with Home Affairs. Please complete the confirmation of marital status form at Home Affairs and provide us with the stamped copy. (Blank forms are available at West View) If your marriage status with Home Affairs is incorrect, you are responsible to follow up with Home Affairs to rectify. Marriages cannot proceed until the marriage status with Home Affairs is correct. Where either party has previously been married, this verification should take place as soon as you decide to marry. It can take months, even years, to resolve incorrect marital status on the Home Affairs system.

We endeavour to prepare you as best we can for your wedding and trust that you will enjoy a long and blessed marriage.