

# *Holding your wedding at Historic St. George's*



The Sanctuary at St. George's offers a beautiful Georgian venue for your ceremony. The large clear glass windows stream glorious natural light on daytime services and in the evening, candles add their own warm, amber glow.



## **Who can be married at St. George's?**

St. George's welcomes all weddings! Pastor Wilson is available to be the presiding minister. A couple may also request to have their own pastor perform the ceremony.

## **Practical Considerations**

We urge a visit to the church during your planning phase. Sunday services are at 10 AM. There is an advantage in seeing the sanctuary in action. The building is also open during the week. Contact the office at 215.925.7788.

*The following information is meant as a realistic perspective on the usage of a colonial era building. We want couples to have everything needed to make an informed and realistic decision:*

As the oldest Methodist church in the USA (1769), holding a wedding at St. George's adds a simple beauty and classical ambiance to your ceremony. However, there are very practical issues to address before choosing this site:

- (1). The Sanctuary is on the second floor, which means guest must negotiate two flights of steps. Currently, there is no elevator.
- (2). Located in the Old City section of the city, parking is a challenge. The church does NOT have a parking lot. Carefully review the section on **Parking** on the next page.
- (3) *Summer ceremonies, please take note:* The church is NOT air conditioned.

## *Additional Information.....*

### **Music for your Ceremony**

St. George's Moeller Tracker organ and a grand piano are both at your disposal. As the organ is an older instrument, we recommend that you contact an experienced organist.



### **Sound System**

There are stationary microphones, as well as wireless microphones available for readers. Please contact the office if there are any other specific questions related to this topic.

### **Decoration**

Seeing the sanctuary, you will understand why little or no additional decoration is necessary. The beautiful Georgian simplicity of the space requires little adornment, though floral pieces are, of course, welcome. Any other decorative elements must be reviewed with the church administrator.

### ***Other important items of note regarding the ceremony:***

- The church and grounds are available for photography before or after the service. The church is unlocked 45 minutes prior to the ceremony and closed one hour after.
- Flash photography and "roaming" video are not permitted during the service. A stationary video camera may be placed in the balcony or in the back of the sanctuary during the service.
- Tossing rice, confetti, glitter, flower petals or birdseed, etc., is **not** permitted inside or outside the church.
- No furniture or fixtures may be moved without the approval of the church staff.

### **Parking & Directions:**

Limited street parking is available but hit or miss. Reasonably priced lots are available around the area on Race Street and also at the Constitution Center. Many couples arrange transportation (bus/trolley) to and from their reception venue and have guests park at that site.

**TAKE NOTE:** The parking lots adjacent to the church belong to the condominiums and are not public parking, nor is the lot at St. Augustine's Church, so please do not plan on parking there.

**Parking arrangements should be clearly communicated to guest with a reminder that the church has no lot.**

## To Review: The Easy Steps to Get to **I Do**

Visit Church to understand the physical layout. You may attend services on Sunday at 10 AM or call the church office at 215-925-7788 to make an appointment.

Review Contract (carefully, please! Particularly the bits about accessibility, parking and confetti, etc)

Sign Contract and Send Payment

IF you are using your own clergy, please have that person send confirmation of ordination to the office.\*

**IF** you are using Pastor Bill, please make arrangements for pre-wedding meetings. Email: [pastorbill@historicstgeorges.org](mailto:pastorbill@historicstgeorges.org). \*

Make arrangements with musicians of your choice.

Our Wedding Coordinator, Mona Gardiner, will contact you to confirm rehearsal and wedding times. Her email is [mona@historicstgeorges.org](mailto:mona@historicstgeorges.org)

\* Payment to the minister is separate from the fee for the sanctuary and is made directly to that individual.

# CONTRACT FOR WEDDING CEREMONY AT HISTORIC ST. GEORGE'S

We welcome the opportunity to host your wedding. The charges listed below are the minimum; any additional contributions to St. George's or its staff are welcome.

For use of the Sanctuary: \$1200 (50% deposit at the time of booking).

Check made payable to St. George's UMC (or online payment) must be received to reserve the sanctuary for the rehearsal and the ceremony. Rehearsal time (usually night before the ceremony) is slotted for 60 minutes; overage will be billed at \$50 per hour, payable that evening. For your wedding day, the church will be opened 45 minutes before the ceremony and closed 1 hour after.

**Mailing Address:** Historic St. George's UMC, 235 N 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

Rev Wilson's services: \$600 (fee includes up to 2 pre-planning meetings and rehearsal). Check made payable to Rev William B. Wilson, Sr., and mailed to the pastor 30 days prior to the service at the church address above. Please contact the pastor at 215.925.7788 or [pastorbill@historicstgeorges.org](mailto:pastorbill@historicstgeorges.org) to arrange your pre-wedding meetings.

If you would prefer to use your own pastor, please provide their name/denominational church and contact information.\*\* (\*\*Please note: there will be a \$250 administration fee which will be made out to Rev. Wilson 30 days prior to the wedding and mailed to the church.

*Please keep a copy of this document and return this signed page with your payment for use of the sanctuary:*

DATE/time (of wedding): \_\_\_\_\_

DATE/time (of rehearsal): \_\_\_\_\_

Couple Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address for couple following the ceremony:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_