



*Weddings*

*at*

*Minnehaha  
United Methodist  
Church*



Revised 4/15

## Fees For Weddings

**Members** are defined as couples actively attending worship and contributing to the missions of Minnehaha United Methodist Church.

**Associates** are couples who have a connection to the congregation, but are not currently active in the life of the church. (Often relatives of members, visitors, past members.)

**Non-members** are those couples who have little or no connection to our congregation, but wish to be married in our church. Non-members are asked to make a \$250 deposit at the time the date is reserved. This is then applied to the church fee.

All fees must be paid *prior to* the wedding rehearsal. Fees may vary depending on size of wedding or reception. Separate checks should be prepared for the church, Pastor, Wedding /Kitchen Host(s), Organist, Audio Technician, Custodian.

	Non-Members	Associates	Members
Church	\$500	\$250	\$250
Pastor	\$350	\$350	\$350
Wedding Coordinator	\$100	\$100	\$100
Organist	\$150 and up	\$150 and up	\$150 and up
Audio Technician (if needed)	\$50 an hour and up	\$50 an hour and up	\$50 an hour and up
Reception Space	\$250 for 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 hrs \$100 each add hr	\$150 and up	\$100
Kitchen	\$100	\$100	\$100
Kitchen Host	\$100	\$100	\$100
Custodial	\$100	\$100	\$100



At Minnehaha United Methodist Church we seek, we serve, we celebrate, and we carry our faith into our community and the world. We provide a caring gathering place to worship God and grow spiritually.

The marriage service is sacred and one of the most beautiful of all the services of the church. It is always a worship service in which two persons in the company of God, their loved ones and friends pledge themselves to each other under the blessing of God and are united by God in holy wedlock. We feel sure that you will look upon your wedding as a service of worship. The United Methodist Church has emphasized God as the center of the ceremony.

It is our desire, in inviting you into our sanctuary, to help you make your wedding a memorable event, beautiful and spiritually meaningful. It is to this end that the following procedures and policies have been developed. By accepting our invitation, you and your guests are agreeing to respect these policies and procedures and the sanctity of our church building.

**Minnehaha United Methodist Church**  
**Good Things Happen Here!**

3701 East 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis Minnesota 55417  
612/721-6231(voice) 612/721-7289 (fax) [www.minnehaha.org](http://www.minnehaha.org)

## The church contact information:

Minnehaha United Methodist Church  
3701 East 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55417  
612/721-6231 (phone) [www.minnehaha.org](http://www.minnehaha.org) (web)  
612/721-7289 (fax)

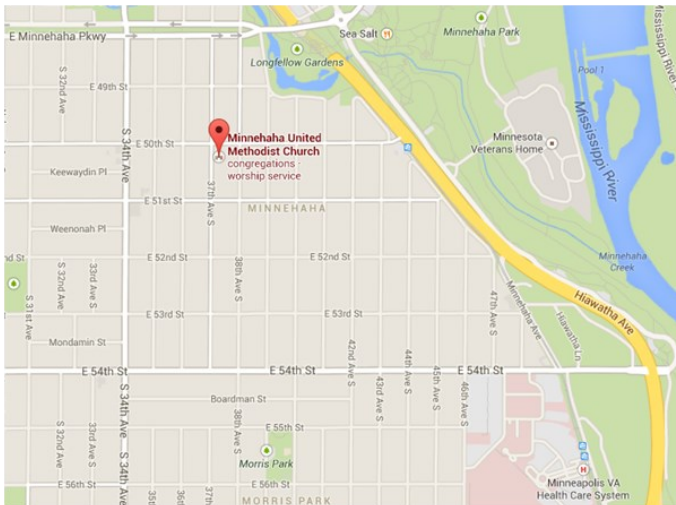
**Church office hours** are Tuesday through Friday 9am - 3pm  
(*may vary in summer*).

## To get here:

- ◆ Take Crosstown/Highway 62 to the Hiawatha/Highway 55 traffic light.
- ◆ Go north (which is labeled Hwy 55 West) on Hiawatha to 50<sup>th</sup> Street.
- ◆ Make a left at 50<sup>th</sup> Street and proceed west to 37<sup>th</sup> Ave South (about 6 blocks).

-OR-

- ◆ Take the Ford Bridge across the river. The bridge becomes 46<sup>th</sup> Street.
- ◆ Continue on 46<sup>th</sup> Street to Hiawatha Ave.
- ◆ Make a left on Hiawatha and proceed south to 50<sup>th</sup> Street (through the tunnel)
- ◆ Turn right at 50<sup>th</sup> Street and proceed west to 37<sup>th</sup> Ave South (about 6 blocks).



## Reception Space

Minnehaha has a large social hall (that seats a maximum of 195 persons) and a commercial kitchen. There is a charge for using these spaces which includes tables and chairs, staging of food in the kitchen and a reception host (a church member responsible for directing others in the proper use of the equipment and facility). Additional fees are assessed based on the specific needs of the event. **Minnehaha is an alcohol-free zone.**

We have 15 round tables that seat 8 people each. Linens and table service may be rented from Midway Party Rental or the company of your choosing. 651/644-0005





## Church Access

You are welcome and encouraged to visit the church during worship. The church office is typically open Tuesday through Friday from 9am to 3pm. It is recommended that you schedule an appointment with your wedding host several weeks prior to your wedding to discuss the ceremony details.

Your wedding rehearsal will be scheduled for one hour (the church will be open at least 15 minutes before the scheduled time). Usually, decorating can be done during the rehearsal time.

On your wedding day, you will have access to the church for five hours; this includes the ceremony, dressing, photography, and any fellowship time afterward. Typically this means you can arrive no more than 3½ hours prior to the ceremony (assuming photography before the ceremony).

You will be provided two dressing rooms, one for the bridal party, one for the groomsmen. During summer months these rooms, along with the church office, will have air-conditioning.

## Decorations

- ◆ A single altar arrangement is traditional but you may wish to display additional arrangements or none at all. Only living flowers/plants may be used on the altar.
- ◆ The aisle is 75 feet long (this does not include the steps to the Chancel).
- ◆ Tacks or sharp objects are NOT to be used to secure decorations to the pews.
- ◆ Please note that the first several rows of seating are chairs to allow for flexible and accessible seating so there are not traditional pew ends.
- ◆ We have a set of candelabra, holding seven candles each, which you are welcome to use. You must supply fourteen drip-free candles, if you wish to use them.
- ◆ Flower delivery to the church should be while the wedding party is here. Coordinate the time with the Wedding Host.

## General Information:

Minnehaha is fully accessible, including the altar. There is flexible seating in both the front and rear of the sanctuary to accommodate wheel chairs and other special needs.

Our sanctuary seats 250-300 people easily, more if the ushers are assertive. We have a center aisle, approximately 75 feet long.

There is **no air-conditioning** in the sanctuary. Electric fans can be positioned in the outside aisles if needed.

There is **no smoking or alcohol consumption** allowed anywhere in the church or within 30 feet of the building.

Church Staff & Direct e-mail:

Rev. Becky Sechrist, Pastor

[becky@minnehaha.org](mailto:becky@minnehaha.org)

Heather Klein, Secretary

[office@minnehaha.org](mailto:office@minnehaha.org)

Mary Fairbairn, Traditional Music

[mary.e.fairbairn@gmail.com](mailto:mary.e.fairbairn@gmail.com)

Tim Siefkes and Isaac Russell, Contemporary Music

[ikethebassplayer@gmail.com](mailto:ikethebassplayer@gmail.com)



### **Scheduling the Date**

Contact the office administrator at the church to verify the availability of your preferred wedding date. You should discuss possible conflicts for the wedding ceremony, photography time and the wedding rehearsal (usually the evening before). Specific times for the rehearsal and wedding will be set with the Officiant and Wedding Host.

### **Officiant**

The Officiant is the person performing the legal wedding ceremony. Minnehaha invites clergy and others with credentials recognized by the State of Minnesota to perform marriages. Clergy from other states can register their credentials permitting them to perform ceremonies.

Our Pastor, Rev. Becky Sechrist, marries couples who have made clear their intent through preparation and, if necessary, counseling. She typically will meet with a couple two to four times before the marriage ceremony.

The Office Administrator can provide a list of United Methodist Pastors who may be available to perform the wedding if Pastor Sechrist is unavailable.

### **Wedding Host**

Minnehaha will assign a Wedding Host for every ceremony. This is a member of our congregation who knows the building. This person is responsible for opening the church, setting up for the ceremony, running the audio system (unless an audio technician is required), and after the wedding, resetting the sanctuary and securing the building. The Wedding Host will contact you a month before the wedding to go over your plans and will be at the rehearsal to assist the Officiate. Each wedding couple is asked to identify a family member, or friend, who will work with the Wedding Host before, during, and after the ceremony to make sure everything goes as planned and that no belongings are left behind.

### **Music**

Our sanctuary has a grand piano and a tracker pipe organ. Our organist, Mary Fairbairn, must be your first contact for organ music. Her rates begin at \$150 (this does not include the wedding rehearsal) and will vary depending on your requests. You may bring in your own music, pianist or other musicians with permission. [mary.e.fairbairn@gmail.com](mailto:mary.e.fairbairn@gmail.com)

### **Sound**

Minnehaha has a high quality sound system. Standard capabilities include three microphones and the ability to use recorded music. An audio technician is required for ceremonies where extended services are needed.

### **Photography/Videography**

Taking photos and video recording during wedding ceremonies is permitted, provided it is NOT intrusive to the service (ie: no flash). Your Officiant may have additional preferences.

### **License**

Couples are responsible for securing a marriage license and any other documentation for the ceremony. Please take note that Minnesota has a “waiting period” for marriage licenses and this should not be left to the last minute.

