

West Cohasset Chapel
Premarital Interview Profile

Mr. _____ Age _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____ Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Currently member of what church? _____

If not WCC how long have you regularly attended? _____

Previously married? _ Yes _ No If yes, date of dissolution or divorce: _____

Occupation _____

Miss _____ Age _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____ Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Currently member of what church? _____

If not WCC, how long have you regularly attended? _____

Previously married? _ Yes _ No If yes, date of dissolution or divorce: _____

Occupation _____

How long have you dated each other? _____

When were you engaged? _____

When are you considering being married? _____

Please list two references from West Cohasset Chapel who know you as a couple:

1. Name _____ Phone _____

2. Name _____ Phone _____

Each individual should please complete one of the following sheets, and return them together with this profile sheet before your interview date to:

West Cohasset Chapel

24650 State Highway 6

Cohasset, MN 55721

For Office Use Only:

Wedding Policy Mailed _____ Counselors Assigned/Date _____

- 2) We view the premarital process as a link in a mutual commitment between the couple and WCC which will continue following marriage;
- 3) The possibility of other requests necessitates our having a standing policy for handling wedding requests.

Q: Are there guidelines for who may be married at WCC?

A: Yes. --By definition, a Christian marriage is comprised of one man and one woman who have **individually** committed their lives to Jesus Christ. We are not free to perform the marriages of couples who have not made this commitment;
--All applicants are requested to have attended WCC regularly for at least six months as a couple before applying;
--We recommend couples already part of another church to pursue wedding plans in that church;
--By conviction, we do not consider conducting mixed-faith marriages (i.e., combinations of Catholic/Protestant/Jewish couples).

Q: How long does WCC process take to complete?

A: Excluding the initial interview & approval, we require a **LEAD TIME OF AT LEAST SIX MONTHS** (see below).

FLOW AND SCHEDULE -- WCC PREMARITAL PROCESS

Initial inquiry to WCC office -- Information mailed

Approximately 3 weeks

Initial interview with a WCC Pastor(s) is scheduled & conducted with every couple.

Approximately 7-10 days

Pastor/Elder team reviews the individual cases from each interview and direction is given.

Approximately 8-12 weeks

The premarital counseling sessions will be scheduled to begin immediately after approval. If at any time the pastor/counselor deems that the marriage of the couple is inadvisable the premarital process will cease.

Marriage is a relationship designed and ordained by God, and its significance is emphasized repeatedly in Scripture. In illustrating the relationship of Christ with His bride, the Church, God chose the analogy of the marriage relationship (Ephesians 5). In light of the biblical significance and responsibilities intended by God for marriage, it is essential that the church take seriously its participation in a marriage, as well as its responsibility in marriage preparation.

We have developed a philosophy of ministry to premarital couples which we believe is consistent with God's Word, and which reflects the high standard to which God will hold a man and woman as they commit themselves to marriage. The following are important principles to which we are committed in the conduct of our responsibilities toward God in premarital ministry:

1. WCC will consider couples who wish to take advantage of our premarital program on a case-by-case basis. *Applicants should understand that couples seeking to be married by the Pastor of WCC must first complete and be approved through the premarital process.*
2. Preference in scheduling will be given to WCC members and their families. It is very important that you see this process as an intentional first step to provide for you an ongoing context for the nurture of Christian marriages at WCC.
3. Please see the attached sheet for a description of the application procedure for our premarital process.
4. Listed below are some of the reasons that requests for weddings may be denied or delayed. If upon reviewing this list, you recognize your relationship to be represented here, please feel free to discuss the issue with us as soon as possible.

We may not: Marry a couple if they currently maintain a sexual relationship and are unwilling to abstain for a period of time determined by a pastor; or if they have, in the immediate past, led a life-style which does not represent biblical purity.

Marry a couple if we believe the maturity level of either partner is not such that he or she can fully accept the responsibilities of marriage at that particular time.

Marry a couple if the marriage is radically opposed by pastor and Eldership of WCC (Each case will be reviewed for special circumstances).

We will not: Marry a believer and nonbeliever. 2 Cor. 6:14ff

Marry a couple when a previous divorce situation gives doubt as to the biblical correctness of the marriage.

Marry a couple if they have not been attending WCC regularly within the past six months.

Marry a couple if they do not satisfactorily complete the premarital counseling program requirements, or if counselors in the premarital program recommend against the marriage in the course of the counseling process.

Marry a couple if they are found to have represented themselves untruthfully regarding their relationship or premarital issues during the process.

5. Please consider the time necessary for completing this premarital process.

GUIDELINE: 6-MONTHS