

## **Upper Room Marriage Preparation Experience**

### **Elements of the Marriage Preparation Experience**

There are 3 main elements of our marriage preparation experience that we expect all engaged couples to take part in:

1. Four pre-marriage counseling sessions, including the Prepare-Enrich inventory (with an offsite professional counselor recommended by UR). The cost for the 4 sessions and the Prepare Inventory is \$350. We strongly recommend that you complete the pre-marriage counseling 3 months prior to your wedding to allow your officiating pastor time to discuss the Prepare results with you.
2. Upper Room Engaged Couples Evening with other UR couples. There is no charge for this event. Engaged Couples Evening is offered quarterly.
3. Minimum of 2 meetings with the pastor who will be marrying you. The number of pastoral meetings is at the discretion of the UR pastor.

Upon completion of ALL of the above requirements, your Pastor will sign the Reduced Marriage Fee Educators Statement which can be presented when you apply for your marriage license. A total of twelve hours of pre-marital counseling and preparation experience will reduce the marriage license fee from \$110 to \$40.

### **Initiating the Marriage Preparation Experience**

Go to [www.urminneapolis.org/care/pre-marriage-information.php](http://www.urminneapolis.org/care/pre-marriage-information.php) and fill out an engaged couples information form. Our Marriage Preparation administrator will reply to you within 3 days of receiving the form.

### **A Pastor**

If you have a personal relationship with one of UR's pastors please contact them regarding their availability. Otherwise our marriage/wedding administrator will help you select a Upper Room pastor based upon rotation and availability. An initial meeting with the pastor is required in which they will get to know you and cover the details of the process. If you would like to have an outside pastor perform your ceremony one of UR pastors will be chosen to be your contact regarding our pre-marriage process.

## **Wedding Rehearsal and Ceremony Details**

### **Church Facilities**

Upper Room church facilities are available for your wedding ceremony, wedding rehearsal (although not the rehearsal dinner) and pre-ceremony activities based upon the schedule for the facilities at the church. Talk to the UR marriage administrator regarding availability.

### **Wedding Coordinator**

If you choose to have your wedding ceremony in the Upper Room sanctuary, Upper Room's wedding coordinator will be available to help you select atmosphere elements and setup design, offer direction at the rehearsal, and provide coordination for the rehearsal and wedding day.

### **Upper Room Wedding Costs**

1. Upper Room Minister - \$225 suggested honorarium, considered a gift payable to minister; includes pre-marital meetings, rehearsal and ceremony.
2. Upper Room Sanctuary - \$200 payable to Upper Room.
3. Musician - \$100 minimum, fee determined with musician, payable to musician.
4. Upper Room Sound Technician - \$100 payable to technician.
5. Upper Room Wedding Coordinator - \$150 payable to coordinator (if being married at UR sanctuary)