



The following are the requirements for participating in the Premarital Ministry:

- You must be a covenant member or regular attendee of Mars Hill.
- You must attend an orientation and complete the full Premarital Process. To begin the premarital process, your wedding must be 6-12 months from one of the Premarital Orientation dates.

Premarital Orientation

- Register to attend a Premarital Orientation 6-12 months before your wedding date.
- Cost is \$35 per couple (includes all materials and online PREPARE Inventory) - PREPARE is an assessment tool used by our mentor couples that assists in evaluating a couple's strength and growth areas.
- All Premarital Orientations are held at Mars Hill – one time, two-hour evening. Orientations are offered 4 times per year. Remaining 2008 Dates: July 14 or October 13.

Mentoring

- After a couple participates in the one-time Premarital Orientation, a mentor couple will be assigned to them. The assigned mentor couple will contact the engaged couple, and together they will schedule the dates and times of the sessions. Meetings usually take place in the mentor couple's home lasting a total of 10-12 hours (5-6 sessions). Our mentor couples are volunteers who have a heart and desire to work with engaged couples and who are able to bring in personal experiences and life lessons that may enhance an engaged couple's relationship.
- We ask couples who have been previously married and/or have children to seek professional counseling outside of Mars Hill. Because there are many dynamics facing second marriages and blended families, we want to ensure a successful preparation period. Mars Hill will provide a list of local Christian counselors. Some scholarship funds are available.

Scheduling a Pastor

- For couples who need a pastor, contact Community Life at 616.406.3923 or at info@marshill.org no more than six months prior to your wedding date and after 2 sessions have been completed with your assigned mentor couple or a professional counselor. A normal honorarium for the individual officiating the wedding is \$150. In addition to the pastor's fee, please consider all extra costs such as overnight accommodations, gas mileage (over 15 miles) and food.



Facilities

- To schedule the Mars Hill facilities for your wedding, please fill out and turn in a wedding application. Applications are available online and at the church office. The wedding coordinator will contact you upon receiving the completed application. At that time, a meeting will be scheduled.
- Weddings can be scheduled **NO SOONER** than one year prior to your wedding date.
- The total cost for the use of the facility for a rehearsal and wedding is \$500. A \$250 deposit is due at the time of scheduling the facility and is non-refundable. The balance is due two months prior to the wedding date. The wedding fee includes set up, tear down, a sound and light person, use of a keyboard and a wedding coordinator.
Note: All facility fees are in addition to the pastor's honorarium.
- Wedding rehearsals must take place between the hours of 4 pm and 7 pm. Weddings will not be scheduled on holiday weekends. Holding a rehearsal dinner and/or wedding reception at Mars Hill is discouraged, but will be entertained on a case by case basis.
- For more information, please contact Mars Hill facilities at 616.406.3972 or info@marshill.org.