

Fred W. Symmes "Pretty Place" Chapel at YMCA Camp Greenville



Fred W. Symmes Chapel (also known as "Pretty Place" because of its amazing view) is a timeless gift, given by Mr. Fred W. Symmes for the enjoyment of the boys and girls who attend YMCA Camp Greenville each summer. It is the spiritual center of camp, and a special place to those who have visited.

When you host your wedding ceremony at Pretty Place, you and your guests will be treated to a gorgeous view of South Carolina's Upstate, and a truly unique outdoor wedding experience. You'll also be supporting the mission of YMCA Camp Greenville. Reservation fees ensure maintenance and upkeep of the Chapel, as well as assist with camperships (scholarships to help provide summer camp experiences for children who might not otherwise have the chance).

We hope you enjoy the peace and serenity you will experience upon visiting the Fred W. Symmes "Pretty Place" Chapel.

**"The words Pretty Place simply do not do this place justice. Breathtaking views of the mountains and a place to relax and reflect."
-Pretty Place Guest**

"indescribably beautiful"

2024/2025 Chapel Fee Schedule

	Friday-Sunday	Monday-Thursday
Two-hour time block (minimum reservation)	\$3,200.00	\$2,500.00
Each additional hour for wedding	\$1,600.00	\$1,250.00
One-hour rehearsal	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Sound system rental	\$125.00	\$125.00

Required Deposit

There is a \$300.00 non-refundable hold-the-date deposit to make the reservation with balance due within ten (10) business days from the date the reservation is made.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

No refund will be made for cancellations made within 12 weeks of scheduled event. This includes reservations made within that 12 week period and any events rescheduled within that window.

For cancellations made prior to 12 weeks of the scheduled event, a refund will be issued less \$150.00 cancellation fee and \$300 deposit for weddings. Rehearsals will incur a \$75.00 cancellation fee.



How to Reserve

1

Determine what you need

Before you inquire, determine whether a two-hour reservation time (minimum) is enough time for your event. Keep in mind that set-up and pack-up must fit within your reservation time. If you think you'll need additional time, decide how many hours you'll need.

Consider whether you'll want to host a rehearsal before your big day. If so, you'll add the rehearsal time on to your reservation.

2

Check availability

Contact us to check for date availability. Inquiry form and contact information can be found at:

<https://www.campgreenville.org/pretty-place/>

If your preferred date is available, you'll be asked to provide a \$300 hold-the-date deposit. This non-refundable deposit locks in your date while we confirm all your logistics and you sign and return your contract.

3

Return your contract and payment within 10 days

Once you have paid your deposit, we'll prepare your contract and send it to you. You have 10 business days to pay-in-full for your reservation and return the signed contract.

4

Prepare for the Big Day!

Use the detailed information in this packet to plan and prepare for your event. If you have any questions, feel free to call or email our office.

Chapel Information

Rental of the Chapel includes use of the Chapel facility only, and only for your wedding ceremony. Your reservation does not include ministers, priests, flowers, musicians, photographers, catering or reception areas. There are no on-site facilities for a reception. For information regarding local business that provide various wedding services, visit www.campgreenville.org, click on Chapel and then on Chapel vendors.

Scheduling

Weddings are scheduled mid-March through November each year and we begin taking reservations for the next year in February of the current year. Winter weddings are booked December- Mid March.

Weddings are scheduled in minimum 2-hour time blocks. If you feel you need more than 2 hours, you may reserve as many additional full hours, as needed, for an additional fee. Rehearsals are scheduled Monday-Thursday, and Friday/Saturday evenings after 6:30 pm.

Be aware that your set-up and clean-up time must fit within your reservation times. Most couples allow 1/2 hour to 1 hour before the ceremony begins for decorating, guest arrival and seating, and to dress; and about 1/2 hour after the ceremony for taking photos, removing decorations, and for all guests to exit. Your time begins promptly at your reserved start time and ends promptly at your reserved time. You may not arrive earlier nor stay later than your reserved times. Be courteous and prompt by beginning and ending on time to enable the next wedding or special event to begin on time. Please refer to your contract for your specific times.

Payment

There is a \$300 non-refundable "Hold the Date" deposit required to secure the date. We do not hold the date without the deposit. Payment in full is due within ten (10) business days from the day the \$100 non-refundable deposit is made. YMCA Camp Greenville accepts credit card payments by phone or checks by mail. If paying by check, the 10 business day policy is still in effect. If payment has not been received within 10 days, your reservation will be cancelled. Camp Greenville is not responsible for scheduling conflicts if your reservations or changes in date and/or times have not been confirmed in writing by our office or if payment has not been received in the allotted time.

Cancellations and Refunds

There is a \$150 cancellation fee for weddings/events. There is a \$75 cancellation fee if the rehearsal only is cancelled. Weddings cancelled prior to twelve (12) weeks from the scheduled date will receive a refund less the \$150 cancellation fee and \$300 deposit. There is no refund for weddings cancelled or rescheduled within twelve (12) weeks of the schedule date. Cancellations must be made in writing and can be sent via email, fax, or postal delivery. Refunds will be provided (within guidelines stated above) within four (4) weeks from the date the request is received.

Inclement weather: Consider the nature of the venue when planning your wedding. No reservation alterations will be made due to inclement weather, unless YMCA Camp Greenville administration deems the situation to be unsafe for visitors.

Marriage License

Symmes Chapel is physically located in Greenville County, South Carolina. Couples will need a South Carolina marriage license. Any licensed minister or Notary Public in South Carolina may conduct the ceremony.

For more details regarding marriage licenses, contact the Marriage License Office in South Carolina, 864-467-7171.

The address to use for your marriage license is 100 YMCA Camp Road, Cleveland, SC 29635.



General Information and What to Expect



The revenues received from rental of the Chapel help support the many programs offered by YMCA Camp Greenville as well as the upkeep of the Chapel, which is open to the public during daylight hours when it is not reserved for a wedding, special event, or activities connected with Camp Greenville.



The Chapel is 40 miles north of Greenville and 5 miles off Highway 276 at the SC/NC State Line. Please allow 1 hr and 15 minutes travel time to the Chapel from Greenville.

The Chapel capacity is 350 to 400 people.

Parking at the Chapel is limited to about 75 to 85 vehicles. Guests may park on each side of the road. Please encourage carpooling or consider the rental of a charter bus, if the guest list is large.



As a YMCA facility, alcoholic beverages are strictly forbidden and no food, smoking, or pets are allowed at the Chapel or on any of the grounds and in the dressing rooms. Please advise guests of these policies.



Dressing rooms are provided for the bride and groom.

The Bride's room is 10' x 15'. It has a full wall mirror and 1/2 wall mirror with a vanity, bench, and a clothing rack. A podium has been provided to be moved into the entry for a guest book. All other items, furniture, and decorations should not be removed from the Bride's room.

The Groom's room is 10' x 12'. It has a mirror, bench, and hooks for hanging clothing.

There are electrical outlets in the dressing rooms. There is an additional restroom for your guests.



The sound system is a simple and efficient way for you to broadcast music, instruments, and liturgy for a ceremony or service. The sound system is user friendly so anyone can operate it during your event. All instructions and equipment are provided with this rental.



The natural beauty of the Chapel makes extensive decorating unnecessary. Plan for limited decorations.

If you will use flowers for decorating, please be aware that it's often windy at the chapel and floral arrangement may become disheveled. Candles are not recommended due to wind, and silk or imitation flower petals are not allowed. Please do not use tacks, nails, screws or staples for hanging decorations. Use of floral wire is recommended where decorations need to be secured.



Using an aisle runner is not recommended because it is difficult to anchor and may become a safety hazard for your guests. For other decorating purposes, it may be helpful to know that the distance of the steps from the back of the Chapel to the alter is approximately 66 feet. The steps are roughly 3 feet apart.



There are four electrical outlets accessible within the Chapel. Two are located at the front of the chapel on the outside columns and the other two are located in the hallway at the entrance of the Chapel.

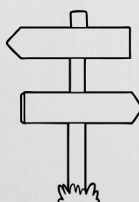
Our staff will make sure restrooms are clean and leaves are blown away from the area prior to your event.



All decorations, floral boxes, etc. must be removed from the Chapel and dressing rooms upon your departure. If you place balloon or signs along the road coming into Camp to direct your guests, please assign someone in your party to remove them before you leave.



YMCA Camp Greenville is not responsible for personal items lost, left behind, or stolen from the chapel or dressing rooms; however, we will make every effort to locate lost items when notified and return them to the owner.



YMCA Camp Greenville is not responsible for the actions of the public, that is, disturbing ceremonies in progress, taking photographs during ceremonies, or hiking into the site during a ceremony. A "Chapel Closed for Private Event" sign is posted at the camp entrance with the reserved times of the wedding to notify the public when the Chapel is in use. A staff member will be stationed near the Chapel entrance to welcome your guests and limit public access as much as possible. In summary, every effort will be made to ensure your event is private, but it cannot be guaranteed.