



## Getting married at Bramhall Methodist Church

At the heart of your special day lies the marriage service itself. Within these special moments, important vows are exchanged, deep sentiments are expressed, profound words are spoken which mark the pledging of whole-hearted commitment to each other. And all that's said and done is witnessed by family and friends, and also by God. That's why the venue matters! Many people are glad for the opportunity to be married in a church - with its spiritual focus – especially a church that can offer a warm and inviting atmosphere, with support and guidance every step of the way.

### What do we offer?

Personal care from your initial enquiry you will deal first hand with our Minister, Sarah. Sarah will meet with you and talk you through all you need to know and do. From making the booking until the wedding itself there will be regular opportunities to meet with Sarah and put together the order of service that you want. There is a lot of space within a marriage service for special music, readings, poems and other contributions and we'll encourage you to personalise the service according to your taste and wishes.

### And once married life begins.

Many people find that the spiritual warmth and faith of the Church is so attractive that they want to keep in touch. We welcome everyone to services (and indeed many couples come to worship before they are married – although there is no obligation), and as family life develops, we offer great provision for babies, toddlers, children and young people, with many opportunities for adults to grow in their relationship with God too.

### Frequently asked questions.

#### I've been married before. I have children from a previous relationship. Can I still get married in church?

We believe marriage is very special in God's eyes. However, we also recognize that sadly some marriages don't work out, and know that God's forgiveness can bring new starts and hope. Our Minister will talk with you about your previous marriage – it helps to understand the background to the breakdown, and the effect it has had on you. However, unless there is a concern about how serious you are about your present relationship, your divorce does not prevent you being welcome to be married in our church.

#### I'm not baptised. I don't go to church. Can I get married in church?

Yes! We offer as big a welcome as possible to everyone – believing this is God's character. Our Minister will usually talk with you about where you are with God - this helps her know how to approach the service. And of course, we always encourage people to explore who God is and a relationship with Him because we believe that Jesus can bring life in all its fullness to everyone.

We do not have hoops that you must jump through – all are welcome here!

#### Is there parking at church?

There is a drop off area at the front of church for the bridal cars, together with a small number of disabled parking spaces. However, there are also local cheap car parks which are very accessible and a free car park behind the library/health centre.

#### How long does the service last?

A typical wedding service will last for about 45 minutes. However, of course, the length depends on the different elements that are incorporated into the service.

### How much will the wedding cost?

Our Minister will be able to tell you the current fee when you make an enquiry. We would also want you to know that we are more interested in hosting your marriage service than receiving your money – and if money is an issue to you then we would be glad to talk about that and agree a way forward. Indeed, we recognise that some people are put off getting married because they fear it will just cost far too much. It doesn't have to be this way, and we'll be very glad to discuss this with you.

We hope this leaflet will help you know more about getting married in our church. Please do contact us to find out more. Rev Sarah Parkin is contactable on 07711 979955 or via [sarah@bramhallmethodists.org.uk](mailto:sarah@bramhallmethodists.org.uk)

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