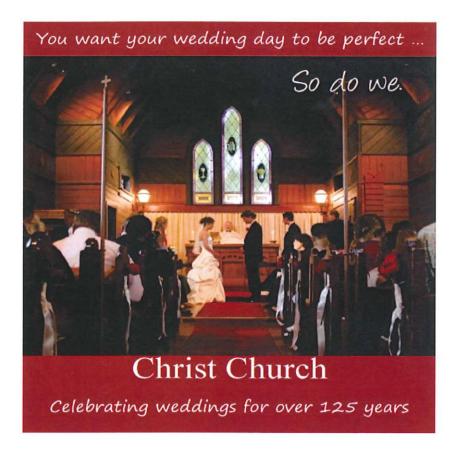


website: <u>www.ctrchurch.com</u> 604 576-2216



Christ Church is located in Surrey Centre, which was the first part of Surrey to be settled. It is Surrey's oldest church and has been in continuous use since its construction.

In 1872, Abraham Huck, an American Civil War veteran, purchased 320 acres at Surrey Centre, becoming the area's first pioneer. Huck was followed by pioneers George Boothroyd (1872), Edmund Wade (1884), Arthur Richardson (1887), Chris Brown (1890), Henry Bose, and James McLellan (1892). The Municipality of Surrey was incorporated in 1879 and Surrey Centre was chosen as the site for the new district's Municipal Hall. Abe Huck donated four acres of land – where Surrey Centre School now stands – for that purpose. At that time there were no churches in Surrey and services were held in pioneers' log cabins. After 1881, services were held in the Municipal Hall.

In 1882, the Reverend William Bell was welcomed into the rural community. Travelling on horseback, Rev. Bell served the community in an area spanning over 130 square miles. The Huck family donated another acre of land to build an Anglican church.

The building materials were made into a raft and pike-poled down the Serpentine River by Rev. Bell. Mr. Wade, who had the church bell installed in memory of his son, hitched up his team of oxen to haul the materials to the site. In September 1884, just seven weeks from the laying of the foundation stone, the pioneers had Christ Church ready for opening. The total cost was \$1,199.48.

Christ Church was designated a heritage building in 1978. At that time, a new shingle roof was added and, while Christ Church has changed colour a few times over the years, the interior has remained largely as it was in 1884. Christ Church is now maintained by the parish, with the help of Surrey Heritage Commission and BC Heritage Trust.

The doors of Christ Church have never been closed and its bell has continued to ring out across the countryside.

Congratulations on your engagement and your interest in getting married in historic Christ Church. Couples have been getting married here since 1884, and our lovely historic chapel is a fitting and popular venue for this most important ceremony.

Due to its heritage building status, we are happy to offer Christ Church to couples who wish to have their own pastor/minister marry them in a traditional church setting. However, there are a few rules:

- * Officiants should be ordained by a Christian denomination that recognizes the Trinity marriage commissionaires are not permitted.
- * Candles are not permitted; however, the new LED variety are welcome.
- * Confetti, rice, or flower petals are not permitted.
- * Major furnishings in the church building will not be moved.

The fee includes the use of the church for three hours on your big day, plus an additional hour beforehand for a rehearsal. Music is not included, but couples are free to choose what suits them best. There are a number of lovely backdrops for pictures outside the church, but couples are also invited to do photos inside the church.

When your ceremony is over we will be happy to ring the church bell in celebration.



Christ Church — 16631 Old McLellan Road. Surrey Centre (Cloverdale)



For inquiries, please call 604 576-2216