

[Best Strategies: How to Find Church Marriage Records](#)

Finding church marriage records may not be as easy as finding civil marriage records. Sunny Morton, a well-known international genealogist shares in this post some of her best strategies for finding U.S. church marriage records from her new book: [How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records: A Genealogist's Guide](#). Ms. Morton will be one hundreds of presenters at the RootsTech 2020 Conference, February 26-29 at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City. Here's a preview of this cutting-edge article which can be read in its entirety by clicking [here](#). She is a contributing editor for *Family Tree* magazine, which is my favorite family history magazine because of its spot-on articles covering genealogy that are user-friendly and authored by leading genealogists in the field.

Article Preview

Marriage records are part of that genealogy trinity of U.S. vital records. In addition to documenting the wedding, marriage records may also serve up the equivalent of genealogical party favors, such as the birth dates, birthplaces and sometimes even parents' names of the bride and groom. Civil or government records are generally the first ones we turn to in the United States. These types of records are commonly referred to as "vital records," since they document important events in a person's life like birth, marriage, and death. Civil marriage records can be fairly easy to find and access. However, that's not always the case. There may be times you can't obtain a civil marriage record. If you do find it, it may not include all the information you were hoping for. And sometimes you'd just like to find more corroborating evidence or additional clues about their lives. That's when it's a good idea to turn to church marriage records.

This article is organized in the following subtitles:

- Step 1: Identify the Church of Your Ancestor
- Step 2: Find Where the Church Records are Located
 1. Googling the Chur
 2. Contact the Church Organization
 3. An Example Search
- The Search for Church Marriage Records Can Lead to More Gems
- A Genealogist's Guide to Finding Church Records
 1. Amish
 2. Anglican
 3. Baptist
 4. Congregational
 5. Dutch Reformed
 6. Latter-day Saint
 7. Lutheran
 8. Mennonite
 9. Methodist
 10. Quaker
 11. Presbyterian
 12. Roman Catholic
 13. and various German churches

Closing Comments

Normally I would not post articles concerning books but this free on-line posted article by itself should be a good stimulus to open doors for you to improve your searches for church marriage records. It can be particularly helpful when dealing with the limitations of obtaining available civil records for your ancestors. The Lisa Louis Cooke web site where this article is published is an excellent resource for genealogist featuring a plethora of "how to" books, videos and other resources to be aware of. Its contents are always user-friendly and well worth your time in investigating. For example, my innovative and powerful Google

Earth presentations found on my previous posting: [Family History Success Requires Spiritual Motivation for Creating Eternal Memories: Here's My Story, Part 6](#) - "*Let's connect rather than evaporate over time*" were created from Lisa's *Google Earth* books and CDs as found on her web site entitled "[Genealogy Gems](#)." Her free genealogy blog newsletters are nationally acclaimed and highly recommended for budding genealogists through expert levels covering a wealth of invaluable articles, tips and guidelines. Click [here](#) for more information. Lisa will certainly be well-featured at the RootsTech 2020 conference featured with "how to" clinics and "live" blogging broadcasts and without any hesitation, Lisa Louise Cooke is the leading genealogist blogger in the world in my opinion. Now you more personally know why the RootsTech conferences are a **must** if you can ever travel to Salt Lake City to attend it each February. In short, it is a mecca for brain-storming new horizons in your family history endeavors whether it be for learning the tools of successfully pursuing original research for your ancestors, recording your family history memories or braining with experts world-wide! And the 200+ exhibitors are second to none!!!