

CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST

Dear friends who may be grieving the loss of a loved one:

It is our privilege to be a part of your planning for a funeral or memorial service for your loved one. We hope to extend the love and care of Jesus Christ to you and to all those who are grieving the loss of someone dear to them. This checklist should assist you in planning for this occasion, and it reflects the culture and practices of our church within the Christian faith and in the Methodist tradition.

Our goal is to help families celebrate the life of their loved one in a service of worship to Almighty God and His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit. This means that we try to create a personal remembrance of the deceased by acknowledging both the tremendous loss as well as the amazing hope of the good news of the resurrection to eternal life.

Appropriate music in such a service of worship will be sacred music that reflects thoughtful, orthodox Christian theology. In our church tradition that normally involves live organ, piano, instrumental or sung music. Most importantly, we want to help families to experience a service that is meaningful, healing, comforting, and that gives glory to our God- Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Thank you for working with us to insure that this worship experience both honors the deceased and gives glory to the Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Jacky Gatliff
Director of Care Ministries

Planning the Service

Helpful Contacts:

Leigh Anne Murray, Administrative Assistant
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Rev. Jacky Gatliff
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901-261-2336

Name of the deceased _____

Date of Birth _____ Date of Death _____ Church membership/date _____

Family Contact:

Name _____ Best Phone _____

Email _____

Be prepared for these questions:

- When do you want to have the service?
- Where do you want to have the service? (sanctuary, chapel, funeral home, etc.) _____
(Please specify name of funeral home)
- Whom do you want to officiate?
- Will the service be a funeral (With casket) or memorial service?

Time and date for service: _____

Set a planning meeting with the officiating pastor to discuss the service: _____

Be prepared for these questions:

- What are some scriptures you would like included?
- What songs/hymns do you want sung or played?
- CCM will secure an organist/pianist
- Will you have pallbearers? (if funeral, not memorial)
- How many family members will sit with the family? _____
- Where will memorial gifts be designated? _____

Identify other items for the service/ visitation: Poems, scripture, obituary and/or other materials you wish to have included in the printed program that Christ Church Memphis will provide. Pictures may be displayed in the narthex of the Sanctuary, the Wilson Chapel lobby or the Parlor during visitation. Slideshows will be played only during visitation.

Worship Space: There are two options for the service at Christ Church Memphis.

The Sanctuary seats 1000-1200. The Sanctuary is equipped with a grand piano and pipe organ.

Wilson Chapel seats 200-250. The Chapel is equipped with a grand piano and pipe organ.

___ Sanctuary ___ Wilson Chapel

___ Memorial Service (no casket) ___ Funeral (with casket present)

Order of Service:

The officiating minister will help develop an order of service that works for your family. You may want to review previous orders by the office as well as the following pages with music and scripture references. A printed program will be provided for services at Christ Church Memphis only. Funeral homes have different guidelines.

Prelude
Processional
Words of Grace and Greeting
Prayer
Congregational Hymn or other Music
Old Testament Scripture
New Testament Scripture
Gospel Lesson
Congregational Hymn or other Music
Homily
Prayer, often with the Lord's Prayer in Unison
Congregational Hymn or other Music
Commendation(if body or ashes are present)
Benediction
Postlude
Additional Options
Witnesses
Special Music (soloists, etc.)
Apostles Creed

For the cover of the order of worship: _____ Scrolled Cross _____ Three Crosses

A written obituary is attached to this document: _____ Yes _____ No

Requested scriptures to be read: _____

Hymns or other music:

Because funeral and memorial services are services of worship, sacred music is appropriate rather than music that does not convey a religious meaning. Recorded music is not played during the service. We have many talented musicians at CCM who are available to help if needed.

CCM's organist (or their designee) will be available for all funerals and memorial services and may be consulted for musical selections.

Soloist (if applicable): _____

Musicians/ instruments (if applicable): _____

Suggested Hymns:

Sing with All the Saints in Glory
There is a Balm in Gilead
Faith of our Fathers
My Shepard will Supply my Need
Blessed Assurance
On Christ the Rock I Stand
In the Garden
It is Well with my Soul
God of our Fathers
Praise, my Soul, the King of Heaven
Be Thou my Vision
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

O God, our help in Ages Past
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
On Eagle's Wings
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
How Great Thou Art
Amazing Grace
Precious Lord, Take my Hand
Sweet Hour of Prayer
Great is Thy Faithfulness
Hymn of Promise
When we All Get to Heaven
Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Suggested Scriptures:

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 33:26-28a
Psalm 121
Psalm 29: 1-4, 11
Psalm 23
Psalm 103:1-5
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
Isaiah 40:1-8
Isaiah 40:28-31
Isaiah 41:10-11, 13
Micah 6:1-8
Jeremiah 31:3
Isaiah 12:2
Proverbs 3:5-6
Jeremiah 17:7-8

New Testament

Matthew 5:1-12
Matthew 27:45-54
Mark 9:33-37
John 14:1-6
John 11:17-26
John 10:10
John 14:25-27
John 3:16-17, 14:15-18
John 3:14-21
John 3:14-21
John 13:34-35
John 17:1-5
Romans 8:27-28, 37-39
Romans 8:18, 26-30
Galatians 2:20
I Corinthians 13:12-13
Ephesians 4:1-6
II Corinthians 1:18-22
Philippians 4:4-9