

Funeral Guidelines



FIRST MEMORIAL
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIME OF SERVICES

- Funerals held at FMBC, should be planned to accommodate the Pastor's schedule.
- The best days of the week for funerals at FMBC are Friday's and Saturday's.
- Please verify availability of date and time with the funeral coordinator, prior to arranging a funeral with a funeral service provider.

THE FUNERAL AS A WORSHIP SERVICE

The service, which should be conducted with dignity and simplicity, is a witness to God's love given to all people, a love that strengthens and supports even in the midst of grief. It is a witness to God's promise in Jesus Christ, as attested by Christ's resurrection from the dead, and to the sure and certain hope that Christ has gone to prepare a place for the Children of God. The Service of Witness to the Resurrection is a service of worship to glorify God and to console the living. Although thankfulness and honor are to be expressed to God for the life and witness of the deceased, the focus of worship is upon God.

SEATING

The family of the deceased will be seated at the front of the sanctuary, in the center aisle. Care should be taken to ensure that the immediate family, and especially the next of kin, be seated near the center aisle of the first pew and that an adequate number of pews are reserved to ensure that all members of the family shall be seated comfortably.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

- **Music:** Musical selections should be reviewed by the Director of Music and/or the Pastor. The church musician or other musician may be contacted by the family. Other instrumentalists and/or vocalists may also be employed and should be contracted by the family of the deceased. Suitable music should be used, as approved by the musician or pastor. The family of the deceased is expected to cover the cost of any outside musician, instrumentalists, and/or vocalists.
- **Sermon:** The Pastor will meet with the family to discuss particulars. Please contact funeral coordinator to set an appointment.

RECEPTION/REPAST

If suitable to the family, a reception/repast will be provided by the church in the family life center, after the service. The Culinary Ministry of FMBC should be notified of the time and place for any meal which is to be catered or provided by an outside group, whether in the church or at the home of a family member. This service is only provided at no charge, to deceased members of FMBC. We will feed up to 75 family members at no cost to the family.

The cost to non-members is \$300 for up to 75 family members. Please note there will be an additional cost, for feeding additional family members, exceeding 75.

OTHER

Funeral services in which the ministers, and/or the Director of music, of FMBC are not involved, will require having a funeral coordinator, assigned by the church, to attend the funeral. This person will be available to answer questions and ensure the use of FMBC in keeping with this policy and any facilities use policies. **Note: The use of our facilities may be used for Christian funeral services ONLY.**

FEES FOR NON-MEMBERS

Additional fees associated to funeral services for non-members are covered in the Facility Use Policy of FMBC. Any and all fees may be waived or adjusted at the discretion of the Pastor.