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- Will there be a soloist or other ensemble offering music?
- Will the family greet the guests before or after the service?
- Will there be a printed order of worship? If so, will it contain only the service information, or will it also contain a biography of the deceased, the identity of those participating in the service, useful information about a graveside service, reception, memorial gifts, etc.?
- Will there be a reception or even a meal following the service?
- Will there be any photographs displayed for guests to view before or after the service?

Please understand that you will need to provide items like those listed. At this point, Covenant Fellowship is not equipped to produce a printed order of worship, support for a reception, etc. However, should you request the services of our Worship Leader, Dr. C. Harry Causey, our keyboardist, Mrs. Judy Hooks, or any of our other musicians, this will be a private arrangement between you and them. They are not compensated by Covenant Fellowship for this purpose. Compensation is both appropriate and easily arranged through the Funeral Director.

We sincerely hope this information is helpful as you approach these important considerations for yourself and those closest to you.

*There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under heaven:
a time to be born and
a time to die.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

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Covenant Fellowship

Funerals & Memorial Services

Thoughts • Ideas
Guidance

When the questions
come, it is a wise person
who is prepared with
answers.

Funerals and Memorial Services



Should you or a loved one need assistance from Covenant Fellowship in planning or leading a funeral or memorial service, we wish to be as helpful as possible. The nature of our Fellowship presents some limitations. This document is designed to explain our policies and help you make plans for a smooth process.

The term “funeral” connotes that the body is present in some form. The term “memorial service” connotes that the body is not present. A memorial service is sometimes held weeks or even months following burial.

If there is a graveside service, it may be for family and close friends only or open to the public. The services of a pastor and/or musicians at a graveside service vary, but it is more common for only a pastor to participate.

A Celebration of the Resurrection



A Christian funeral/memorial service is characterized by a note of victory. The reality of death is balanced with the reality of our hope in Jesus Christ. The music and the message should reflect those values.

There is an opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all those in attendance. You should discuss this with those leading the service and make your desires known.



Location

Since Covenant Fellowship does not own a facility, it is necessary for you or your family to make your own arrangements concerning the location of the service. We encourage you to plan ahead and be prepared for this important consideration.

While a church facility may be your first choice, please note that many funeral homes have lovely chapels that are ideal. Most of them are equipped with sound equipment and keyboards. Regardless of what facility you might

choose, you should explore what amenities are available and be prepared to share that information with appropriate persons as needed.

Planning the Service



Planning the service is best done in advance. Friends and family will want to know prior to the service whether they should send flowers or perhaps make a memorial gift to a charity of your choice. Here are some other questions for your guidance:

- Are there some favorite Scripture passages or musical selections you wish to include?
- Will there be an open or a closed casket?
- Will there be selected persons who share memories of the deceased?
- Will everyone in attendance have the opportunity to speak (often referred to as an “open mic”)?
- Is there a goal for the total length of the service?
- Will there be congregational singing?

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