

# **A Guide for the Service of Death and Resurrection**



First United Methodist Church, Inc.  
Hendersonville, NC

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*Artwork by Fred L. Dutcher*

## **A Guide for the Service of Death and Resurrection**

The resurrection is a central doctrine of the Christian faith and shapes Christians attitudes and responses to the event of death. In the face of death Christians affirm with tears and joy the hope of the Gospel. It is essential that ongoing congregational life in its totality be centered in the Christian Gospel, which is a message of death and resurrection. The way in which persons deal with all death—past, present, and future—will depend upon how central this Gospel has become in their lives.

Christians do not bear bereavement in isolation but are sustained by the power of the Spirit and the community of faith. The church offers a ministry of love and hope to all who grieve. Continuing support of representatives of the community, including ministries of prayer and worship, is essential in the long-term process by which those who mourn find healing.

Reentry into the community by the chief mourners following the service takes time and can be facilitated by the supportive ministry of the Church. Recurring memorial acts and services are occasions both of healing and of celebration. Mourners are especially open to supportive ministries on such occasions as Christmas, holidays, birthdays, and anniversaries of marriage or of death. Celebration of All Saints and other annual memorial services can also be particularly helpful.

Just as the church embraces us in our baptism and throughout our Christian life, so it embraces us in our death and in our hope of resurrection to eternal life. The purpose of this booklet is to assist members of Hendersonville's First United Methodist Church in the realistic consideration of this eventuality and the decisions that are required at the death of a loved one.

## ***Ministerial Staff***

Upon the death of one of our members, the pastor should be notified as soon as possible. Our pastors also desire to know of those who need comfort and counsel as they face death. Prayer and other acts of worship are crucial with the bereaved at the time of death. By being involved early in situations of death or impending death, the minister can help immensely with the necessary funeral arrangements, interment of the body, and service arrangements, as well as caring for the spiritual needs of those involved. A pastor of First United Methodist Church will preside at the service. Another pastor may assist in the service at the invitation of the presiding pastor.

## ***Types of Services***

All services conducted by pastors of First Methodist Church are services of worship for the community of faith. While the form of services may differ, each is a Service of Death and Resurrection. If the family requests that there be military, fraternal, or other rites in addition to the Service of Death and Resurrection, the pastor will plan carefully the sequence and interrelationship of these services so that the service is not interrupted with other rites, and so that its integrity is supported.

- ***Memorial Service***

The Memorial Service is a service where the body is not present. Interment of the remains in a Service of Committal has either preceded the Memorial Service or will take place at a later time.

- ***Funeral Service***

The Funeral Service is a service where the body is present in either a casket or an urn. The Funeral Service might be concluded with a Service of Committal at the burial site or it may be a separate service at another time and place.

- ***Graveside Service***

The Graveside Service is a service that takes place at the burial site. The Service of Committal is a part of the Graveside Service.

***Service Location***

The Service on the occasion of death is ordinarily held in the usual place of worship in order to join this service to the community's continuing life and witness to the resurrection.

The Sanctuary or Chapel are appropriate places for a Memorial or Funeral Service. Here is where we worship every Sunday. Here is where we baptize our children, celebrate marriage, gather at the Lord's Table, and remember the love and grace of God. Here we are surrounded by the symbols of our Christian faith. In this place we have tangible reminders of the "great cloud of witnesses" that surround us and the community of faith that supports us with compassion and love.

Occasionally the service is held at a funeral home. The First United Methodist Church pastor should be engaged for this location.

***Visitation***

The Alma Lee Cheves Room (201) provides a familiar place for visitation with family and friends. Members are encouraged to use this room for visitation prior to the Memorial or Funeral Service in the Sanctuary. The Roy-all Allen Room (115) also provides a space for visitation prior to the service in the Chapel.

### ***The Order of Worship***

The Service begins with scriptural sentences. It is appropriate for the worshipers to sing hymns, psalms, spirituals, or spiritual songs which affirm God's power over death, a belief in the resurrection to life everlasting, and the assurance of the communion of the saints. Scripture shall be read. A sermon may be preached, proclaiming the Gospel in the face of death. The life and death of the deceased may be gathered up in the reading of a memorial or appropriate statement by the pastor or another person. Pastors, family, friends, and other members of the congregation may briefly voice their thankfulness to God for the grace they have received in the life of the deceased and their Christian faith and joy at the reception in the Barber Christian Life Center or Gettman Room. For the complete service, see pages 870-875 of the United Methodist Hymnal @1989.

### ***Scriptures***

The Scriptures are a rich source to which Christians have turned for comfort and assurance in times of grief. The presiding pastor will guide the selection of appropriate scripture passages and would welcome suggestions of those with particular meaning to the family of the deceased.

### ***Hymns***

Hymns should be chosen which affirm the goodness and grace of God, and which give comfort and support to those who grieve. The Director of Music will guide the selection of appropriate hymns.

### ***Service Music***

The Director of Music will provide suitable sacred music and is available for consultation concerning the selections. Instrumentalists or vocalists may be used, with the approval of the Director of Music. No secular music or recorded music may be used in the Service. Secular or recorded music may be used in the Barber Christian Life Center, the Alma Lee Cheves Room (201) or the Royall-Allen Room (115) for visitations or receptions.

### ***The Pall***

First United Methodist provides a pall for use at every Funeral Service. A pall is a large cloth which covers the casket during the Service or a small cloth or box to cover the cremains. It represents the covering of the Christian by the righteousness of Christ, and alludes to the baptismal waters of death and new life in Jesus. Since righteousness is an unmerited gift from God and all people stand equal in the eyes of God, the outer appearance of the casket and its cost or beauty is of no consequence to the Christian community. By use of the pall, the focus of the Service may remain on the goodness and grace of God. Where appropriate, the American flag may be used in lieu of the pall. If the family chooses to use a flower pall, it will be removed when the casket enters and the Pall or flag will then cover the casket during the Service. Following the benediction, as the casket is taken from the church, the flower pall may again be placed upon the casket.

### ***Cremation Urn***

In the case of cremation, the cremains may be placed on a stand near the altar covered with a pall.

### ***Paschal Candle***

The Paschal Candle will be lighted and placed at the head of the casket or urn containing the ashes and will remind us of our Baptism. Proclaiming the message for Romans 6:3-5, "In our Baptism we have already died and been raised with Christ."

### ***Flowers***

In keeping with the simplicity and understanding of Christian faith, flowers should be limited to two arrangements on either side of the altar in the Sanctuary or one arrangement in front of the altar in the Chapel. This will encourage worshipers to focus their attention on the promises of scripture and the grace of God. Other flowers may be used in the Barber Christian Life Center for the reception or the visitations areas. The Altar Guild will assist the family with the arrangement of flowers for the Service.

# Memorial/Funeral Service Information Form

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contacts (people who may know you and know something about you)

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I have named First United Methodist Church as a charitable recipient in

- ◇ My will
- ◇ In a life insurance policy
- ◇ Other giving vehicle (please describe)

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## ***The Service of Death and Resurrection***

Memorial, Funeral and Graveside Services are acts of worship among the Christian community. The Service of Worship is to glorify God, to affirm our belief in the resurrection to life everlasting, and to comfort the bereaved. Although gratitude and honor are to be expressed to God for the life and witness of the deceased, the focus of worship is upon God; therefore, prolonged and undue attention upon the deceased is discouraged.



Requested Scriptures

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Requested Psalms

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Requested Special Readings (include a copy if possible)

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All Other Requests Not Covered Above

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Requested Special Musicians (include contact information if possible)

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Requested Hymns (most services have 2 hymns but more can be included either sung or played)

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Requested Vocal Solos

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Requested Prelude Music

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Requested Postlude Music

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In lieu of flowers, I would like for my family to consider memorial gifts in my name to the following:

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Information for the witness or meditation: What I want people to remember about me, from early childhood, adolescent years, early adulthood, later in life. My proudest family moment, my proudest career accomplishment, honors, awards and military service.

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Church activities in my life that have been especially meaningful.

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***Remove this blue form when completed, make a copy for yourself and return the green form to the Director of Music.***

***Director of Music  
c/o First United Methodist Church  
204 Sixth Avenue West  
Hendersonville, NC 28739***

***Meditation and Memorial Garden***

The Meditation and Memorial Garden stands as a reminder to us that those who went before us are not forgotten and have found peace and rest with God. It is the hope that this garden will inspire reverence for this life and the hope for the life to come. For more information, please contact the Finance Office.

***Solace Committee***

Upon the request of the First United Methodist Church family, the Pastor will notify the Solace Committee and they will provide a reception at the church following the funeral or memorial service. The reception may be held in the Barber Christian Life Center or the Gettman Room (117). Although not required, it is appropriate to make a donation to the Solace Committee Bereavement Fund for the reception.

***Additional Planning Assistance***

My will is located here \_\_\_\_\_

NC Advance Directives document \_\_\_\_\_

Organ/Tissue Donor Card \_\_\_\_\_

<http://www.secretary.state.nc.us/ahcdr/>

### ***Preparatory Action***

The Memorial/Funeral Service Information Form has been included in the center of this brochure for your convenience. It is our hope that this may make a very difficult time a bit more manageable. After you have completed the blue form in the center, remove it from the brochure and make a copy for yourself and return a copy of the Memorial/Funeral Service Information Form to the Director of Music who will file your information.

### ***Check List***

- Discuss with all involved their ideas about a service that is personal and provides meaning and support.
- Contact the Pastor for special seating needs: Sunday School Classes, Organizations, Family, Special Groups
- Verify with the Pastors the date, time and place of the service.
- Contact the Altar Guild to make arrangements for flowers.
- Arrange for a guest register book, if desired.
- Contact the Director of Music regarding musical selections
- Inform out of town family about the parking areas at the church.
- A Worship Bulletin will be provided. All information needs to be given to the Presiding Pastor three days prior to the service date.
- Will there be a reception at the church?
- Will there be a visitation at the church?
- Will there be any Pall Bearers? Inform the Pastor if the Pall Bearers will be honorary or not and give the Pastor a list of their names.

### ***After the Service***

- Have someone remain after the service and reception to care for flowers, register book and other items which may be left behind.
- All payments are to be made payable directly to the provider, i. e. Reverend, Organist, Soloist, Instrumentalist. Payments for the Meditation and Memorial Garden and flowers should be made to the FUMC.
- Contact the church at 828-693-4275 with any questions you may have. We are here to help you and your family.

***Memorials may be made to the following Funds***

Backpack Mission	provides food for elementary students
Bea Walton Art Fund	art supplies for Vacation Bible School
Briggs Scholarship Fund	college scholarships for youth members
Capital Fund	for use by Trustees as needed for improvements and maintenance
Children's Ministry Fund	supplies/equipment for Children's Ministry
Endowment Fund	funds kept in perpetuity, interest used as needed by Trustees
Feed The Kids	provides dinner at Boys & Girls Club
Giftng Party Ministry	provides gifts for children to give to parents at Christmas
Knit Purl Pray Ministry	provides prayer shawls and knit caps for patients
Lenten Challenge—Missions	assistance for needy
Memorial Fund	for use by Trustees as needed
Memorial Garden	for permanent upkeep of Memorial Garden
Missions	funding for other charities and mission trips
Music Ministry	for use by the Music Department as needed
Praying Hands Quilters	provide prayer quilts
Rummage Military Fund	Military Ministry
Solace Committee Bereavement	donations appreciated to offset cost for Funeral/Memorial reception
Weekday School Scholars	scholarships for Weekday School students
Youth Fund	scholarships for Youth trips

***Helpful Information***

Forest Lawn Funeral Home and Memorial Park

828-692-9188

538 Tracy Grove Road

Hendersonville, NC

Forest Lawn Mortuary Inc.

828-692-3562

538 Tracy Grove Road

Hendersonville, NC

Jackson Funeral Service

828-693-4261

1101 Greenville Highway

Hendersonville, NC

Thos. Shepherd & Son Funeral Directors

828-693-3435

125 South Church Street

Hendersonville, NC

Shuler Funeral Home

828-693-5220

125 Orr's Camp Road

Hendersonville, NC

South Park Funeral & Crematory Service

828-692-0004

124 Joel Wright Drive

Hendersonville, NC

### ***Contact Information***

First United Methodist Church, Inc.

204 Sixth Avenue West

Hendersonville, NC 28739

828-693-4275

Care Line (Pastor on call)

828-702-1454

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dan Martin

828-674-5938

Associate Pastor, Rev. Christy Sharp

828-674-0721

Minister of Visitation, Rev. Annie Fritschner

828-606-8306

Director of Music, Michael S. Brannon

828-458-7153

Director of Food Service, Lou Reeves

828-693-4275 x114

Altar Guild, Joyce Banker

828-891-9463

Finance Office, Carol Davis

828-693-4275 x130



### ***First United Methodist Church Costs and Fees***

Use of Sanctuary	no charge for members \$200 for non-members
Use of Chapel	no charge for members \$150 for non-members
Use of Barber Christian Life Center	no charge for members \$200 for non-members
Use of Alma Lee Cheves Room (201)	no charge for members \$100 for non-members
Use of Gettman Room (117)	no charge for members \$100 for non-members
Use of Royall Allen Room (115)	no charge for members \$100 for non-members
Pastor	no charge for members \$150 for non-members
Director of Music/Organist	\$100.00
Instrumentalist	\$75.00
Vocalist	\$75.00
Flowers	\$75.00 minimum
Sexton	no charge for members \$45 for non-members for 3 hours \$22.50 per each additional hour
Security	no charge for members \$46 for non-members for 3 hours \$18 per each additional hour
Solace Committee (reception)	no charge, honorarium suggested
Meditation and Memorial Garden	
Single Niche	\$700.00
Scattering in Ash Area	\$300.00