

PEOPLES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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FUNERAL AND MEMORIAL SERVICE GUIDELINES

Because we at Peoples Presbyterian Church believe that death is only an event on the way to eternal life and not the end of the pilgrimage, we accept with gratitude the opportunity to provide a setting for a worship service celebrating life and especially the life of the deceased. The presence or absence of the remains is not essential to the purpose of the service. Casket, cremation or the donation of the body to medical science are all acceptable Christian options. Because it is a worship service, we feel it necessary to provide the following guidelines:

- ◆ The casket, if one is present, will be closed at all times while in the church and covered with the funeral pall supplied by the church.
- ◆ We expect to have an Elder present to assist the Pastor.
- ◆ We encourage the full use of our facility and equipment by the family of the deceased.
- ◆ We discourage any excessive display of flowers.
- ◆ The order of service will be determined between family and Pastor.
- ◆ We expect that the family will be seated as they arrive, as would be custom before any worship service unless otherwise arranged with the Pastor.
- ◆ We request that the casket be removed from the sanctuary in a manner that best fits the family's needs.

Most especially, we emphasize our complete willingness as a congregation, in conjunction with our pastor, to do whatever is possible to aid and comfort the bereaved. We will assist with the organization of receptions and/or meals if requested to do so. If changes to these guidelines are desired to meet the traditions or needs of the family these arrangements should be discussed in advance with the Pastor.

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