

**A Service of  
Witness to the Resurrection**

The Service of Witness to the Resurrection begins with scriptural sentences. It is appropriate for worshippers to sing hymns, psalms 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 saints. Scripture shall be read; a sermon or other exposition of the Word may be proclaimed; an affirmation of faith may be made by the people. Aspects of the life of the one who has died may be recalled. Prayers shall be offered, giving thanks to God. The service ends by commending the one who has died to the care of the eternal God and sending the people forth with a benediction.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
4815 FRANKLIN PIKE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37220  
615-383-1815  
www.fpcnashville.org

# Pre-Planning a Funeral or Memorial Service



## Personal Preferences

first  
presbyterian  
CHURCH OF NASHVILLE

This brochure is intended for your personal use in pre-planning a funeral service at First Presbyterian Church of Nashville. By planning your service in advance you can specify the type of service you would like, so that your friends and family celebrate you as you wish.

### *Personal Preferences for*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST MIDDLE LAST

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

MILITARY SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

In order for this advisory to be effective, it must be signed, dated and returned to the church to the office of the Senior Pastor. A copy will be made and returned to you for your personal file. It is recommended that you keep your copy in an accessible place.

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### **CONTACTS**

*Person or persons who can be called upon to provide assistance with arrangements.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

### **FUNERAL HOME**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

## BURIAL/CREMATION PREFERENCES

### Preferred Disposition of the Body:

#### Donated to Medical Science

#### Burial

Cemetery: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Plot: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Cremation

Would you like to be interred in FPC's columbarium?  Yes  No

Location of columbarium niche:

\_\_\_\_\_

Time of committal of ashes in columbarium:

Prior to Service

After Service

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

The church's columbarium provides a comforting and protected resting place for people who have invested their lives in the ministry of this church. The niches are reserved for past and present church members and their immediate family. If use of the church columbarium is desired, you may contact Annette Crout (615-298-9507) regarding columbarium details.

## MILITARY/FRATERNAL RITES

### Military/Fraternal Rites at Gravesite:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## WISHES REGARDING THE SERVICE

### Type of Service Desired:

Funeral Service

Memorial Service

Graveside Service Only

The Senior Pastor shall be invited to lead all funerals at First Presbyterian Church, and may decide whether to take the lead or ask an Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church to take the lead. All services are services of worship for the community of faith, and each is a Service of Witness to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Funeral Service is a

service where the body is present in either a casket or urn, and is concluded with a Service of Committal at the burial site. The Memorial Service is a service where the body is not present, and interment of the remains in a Service of Committal has either preceded the service or will take place at a later time. The Graveside Service is a service that takes place at the burial site, with the Service of Committal being part of the service.

### Location of Service:

FPC Sanctuary

FPC Stanford Chapel

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

The church's sanctuary and chapel are appropriate places for a Memorial or Funeral Service. Here on the church property is where we worship every Sunday, where we baptize our children, celebrate marriage, gather at the Lord's Table, remember the love and grace of God. 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.

### Scriptures Requested:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

### Hymn Selections:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Organ/Piano/Vocal Selections:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Hymns should be chosen which affirm the

goodness and grace of God, and which give comfort and support to those who grieve. The pastor will guide the selection of appropriate hymns. The church's organist will provide suitable sacred music. If additional instrumentalists or vocalists are desired, it is the responsibility of the family to contact the musicians and cover their compensation. The pastor or church Worship Coordinator (615-298-9504) can provide names and contact information for additional musicians.

### Other Special Requests:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The purpose of services of worship are 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. To allow the family time to mourn and grieve, it is recommended that only the pastors speak during the service. However, if you do wish to have someone offer personal reflections, it is recommended that only one person speak.

### Casket Pall:

Provided by First Presbyterian Church

American Flag (if veteran)

The church provides a white pall for every funeral service. A pall is a large cloth which covers the casket during the service. 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. 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 the church. The church 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 on the casket.

### Wishes Regarding Pallbearers:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## VISITATION WITH THE FAMILY

### Location of Visitation:

FPC Cheek House

FPC Courtenay Hall

Funeral Home

Private Residence

The Cheek House and Courtenay Hall provide a warm and familiar place for visitation with family and friends. For services in the chapel, it is recommended that visitation be held in the Cheek House. For services in the sanctuary, it is recommended that visitation be held in Courtenay Hall. A member of the church's Bereavement Committee will be present during the visitation to assist the family and guide visiting guests. If not provided by the funeral home, the committee provides guests books for guests to sign. The family may wish to bring pictures of the loved one for display on tables during the visitation.

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### Wishes Regarding Contributions:

Contributions to First Presbyterian Church

Contributions to Specific Charities:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## OBITUARY

You may attach a prepared obituary or any specific information that you wish to be given to the newspaper.