

## **A COMFORTING HAND IN TIME OF NEED**

Greetings in Christ:

I pray that these Funeral Services Policy guidelines will be a helpful resource for you and your family during the loss of your loved one.

*Almighty God, the One who loves and cares for us in all seasons of our lives, we praise You and adore You. In grief may we find hope and in death may we be reminded of your resurrection power. We pray for peace and strength O God. Surround us with comfort and companionship as only You can do. Unite us in love and compassion as we draw closer to You. Increase our faith and devotion to You as we lean upon Your Word that affirms: "The Lord is my light and salvation; of whom shall I fear?" The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27: 1) Eternal God you are our refuge and help in the time of trouble. We thank you and we glorify you.*

*In Jesus' name.*

*Amen*

---

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### ***In case of death whom do I call?***

Call the associate pastor of Pastoral Care and/or the Comfort Givers. Elder Jean Johnson is the Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care. She can be reached at her office by calling 313-537-9525.

#### ***Does the Church recommend a Funeral Home?***

Yes. Gary Ayler of Swanson Funeral Home-Northwest Chapel and O.H. Pye are our recommended funeral directors. They provide excellent care and service. Swanson Funeral Home's telephone number is 313-272-9000 and O. H. Pye Funeral Home's telephone number is 313-838-9770.

However, we will work with the funeral director and funeral home of the deceased family's choice. It is our desire to best serve your family, as an extension of God's love to you during this difficult time.

### *Whose funeral service can be held at Abundant Life?*

Abundant Life Christian Center is in the community to serve. Members in good standing at Abundant Life Christian Center, that is, attends worship services regularly and supports the ministry financially and relatives of members in good standing may have funeral services at Abundant Life. The pastoral staff may exercise discretion in some instances.

### *What rooms may I use?*

Generally, Fellowship Hall is used for the family dinner after the funeral. In case of a schedule conflict of room space, one of the classrooms may be used to serve the after funeral meal. The Fellowship Hall can adequately accommodate up to 200 people. Classrooms will accommodate up to 100 people.

### *Will you provide a musician?*

Abundant Life Christian Center will make available an organist for the funeral service, an honorarium is accepted. The services of any additional musicians (soloist, instrumentalist, etc.) must be engaged by the family at their expense. If assistance is needed in identifying and/or contracting suitable persons to take part in the service, the Minister of Music is available to the family for recommendations. The music ministry of Abundant Life is committed to helping the family in any way possible during this difficult time. Be advised, however, the remuneration of soloists (or other service participants) is the responsibility of the family and such arrangements

should be made in advance of the funeral service. In most cases, the choir of Abundant Life is available to participate in funeral services.

*Can someone other than the clergy at Abundant Life Christian Center perform the eulogy of the funeral?*

The Senior Pastor and pastoral staff will use discretion. One of the clergy staff will officiate at all funerals.

*Who is responsible for the Obituary?*

The family of the deceased is responsible for the Obituary. The funeral home will assist you in its publication. The associate pastor of Pastoral Care will provide you with an Order of Service, which you will be asked to follow.

*What can I expect from Abundant Life Christian Center?*

As soon as a message is received, you can expect a telephone call from the clergy staff. The associate pastor of Pastoral Care will call you and offer the services of Abundant Life. A member of the Comfort Givers Ministry will also contact you. If you elect to have a funeral at Abundant Life, one of the clergy staff will walk you through the funeral process. They will:

- Provide biblical and spiritual consolation to the family.
- Help complete the Funeral Interview Template.
- Confirm who will do acknowledgements and/or remarks. **(Limited to four people, emphasis, two minutes per person)**
- Provide Order of Service for the funeral.

If you are a member in good standing of Abundant Life Christian Center and you choose to have a funeral dinner. Abundant Life Christian Center will provide 25 dinners. Any dinners over that will be provided at a cost starting at \$12.00 per person.

*Can I use my own Caterer?*

No. For health and legal reasons outside caterers are not allowed, however, friends and family members are welcome to contribute a dish. The Culinary Arts ministry asked that those individuals prepare for the number of expected dinner guests.

*Are there any other costs?*

Yes, there is a fee, \$250.00 to Abundant Life Christian Center for the use of the building. Honorariums are recommended for the musician and eulogist.