

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Will any of the family or friends be permitted to speak at the funeral service?

Public speaking is a challenging task even in normal situations. Public speaking at a funeral is even more challenging. The emotions of the day will feel even more powerful than they do now. For this reason, we discourage eulogies during the Funeral Service. Instead, we suggest that these eulogies be shared at the reception, as it is a more appropriate time and setting for the free sharing of memories.

As an option, reading scripture during the service is a meaningful way for family or friends to participate in the service.

Can we include our loved one's favorite songs?

The function of the songs selected is to remind us of biblical truths. Songs that do not meet this standard, and yet are important to the family for sentimental reasons, are encouraged to be used at the reception, or during a memorial video that may be played during the reception or visitation.

If there are hymns or praise songs that were particularly meaningful to your loved one or to your family, please share during your meeting with the pastoral staff. They can help to guide you with the selection, use, and placement of these songs.

What is the difference between a funeral service and a memorial service?

A funeral service always includes the presence of the casket. A graveside committal service typically follows for the burial. A memorial service usually has just the urn present. A committal service may follow if the urn is to be placed in a cemetery.

Can we place a picture of our loved one up front and/or near the entrance during the Funeral/Memorial?

Yes. Trinity can provide an easel(s) when you indicate that you will be using a picture(s) in the service.

Can we show a memorial video in the Funeral/Memorial Service?

Memorial videos can be very special to the family and are encouraged during the visitation.

What other things should we plan for and consider?

*Memorials – If you would like to have attendees give financial gifts to a charity or other organization in the name of your loved one, please indicate that information when you fill out the online form. It will be included in the bulletin.

*Flowers – All flowers delivered to the church will be set in appropriate places for the Funeral/Memorial service. If there is a graveside to follow the service, the funeral home may assist in transporting flowers for the family. Other times, the family is asked to transport the flowers of their choosing. Your funeral home can advise you about this detail.

*Guest Book – You are invited to purchase a guestbook (either through the funeral home or at a local store) which those attending the funeral may sign, indicating their presence. This book can be placed at the entrance to the sanctuary/chapel. In some cases when the signing of the guestbook is delaying the start of the service, the funeral directors may close the book in order to seat everyone more quickly. When this occurs the guestbook can be put out again at the reception or as people leave the service.

*Receptions – Receptions are a wonderful part of the Funeral/Memorial day. It provides opportunity for friends and families to gather and share special memories of their loved one. It also allows for a strong communication of support for those in grief.

Trinity is also able to host the reception. If this is of interest to you, please discuss this with the pastoral staff. Trinity has a wonderful set of volunteers who help to provide the meal and we are blessed to care for your family in this way. Again, please make arrangements in advance, indicating the number of expected guests so that food can be ordered. Currently we have two choices of meals with Subway sandwiches or fried/baked chicken as the main entrée. A nominal donation is appreciated to assist in covering costs for these luncheons.

*Thank You Notes – All gifts of memorials, flowers, and food should be acknowledged with a written thank you.

*Honorariums- Honorariums are typically given in appreciation to those serving you and your family during this time of grief and funeral preparation. They can include members of the pastoral staff (pastors and deaconesses), musicians, technology, and soloists. In most cases, the funeral home will collect the honorariums from you and then distribute checks for you. Please check with your funeral home as to how this will be handled.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Deaconess Suzanne at 281.290.4960 or fingerles@trinityklein.org. To fill out the form with all the information needed, please click here: <https://www.trinityklein.org/arrange-a-funeral/>