

FUNERAL PLANNING



For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you. Isaiah 54:10

faithlovecommunity
First Lutheran Church

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PLANNING GUIDE

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. John 14:27

When planning your funeral or a funeral, there are many choices to make. Facing some of those choices now will make the process less demanding for your loved ones later. This Funeral Planning Guide will lead you through a variety of decisions. After death, the pastor of First Lutheran will meet with family members and review this form to shape the funeral or memorial service.

This worksheet may be used by:

- an individual making their advance plans known,
or
- a family planning the funeral of a loved one nearing death or recently deceased.

Please supply as much information as you wish to share on any parts of the worksheet.

Guide for the Christian Funeral of: _____

Full Name: First, Middle (Maiden), Last

Date Completed: _____

For the Person Making Advance Plans:

You can fill out this form on your own, with family members, or set up a time to go over it with the pastor of First Lutheran. Many people find this helpful. When you have finished filling it out, please consider giving a copy of it to First Lutheran's pastor. Your information will be kept in a confidential file available only to the pastoral staff members of First Lutheran. It will be used in consultation with your family or whomever you have directed to carry out these wishes upon your death.

Also, after completing the worksheet, consider telling someone you trust about it. You may wish to discuss with them what you have written to be certain that it is clear. Consider providing copies:

1. To your Family
2. To Funeral Director

Or simply give it to someone you trust with a note that says:

I have recorded my desires regarding my death and burial. I keep this information in the following place:

(i.e. on file at the church, with my will, etc.).

At the time of my death, I ask that you use this information to provide guidance for my family and my church in making arrangements for the funeral I desire.

Although this information is being left for safekeeping, I understand that it is not legally binding or enforceable. This worksheet does not make the church or anyone obligated or responsible for the execution of these instructions.

With gratitude,

Signature and Date

Please use this worksheet to assist with plans that will honor you or your loved one's expressed wishes or desires and will reflect his/her values. If you haven't already contacted a Funeral Director, please consider doing so now. The professional services, compassionate care, and guidance they provide will greatly assist you in the days ahead.

When death occurs, please contact the church office at 218-728-3668 or after hours please leave a message at extension 204 or 207. Additional contact information is listed on the First Lutheran web site (www.flcduluuth.org). Area Funeral Directors also have personal contact information for First Lutheran's pastor and will contact her on your behalf.

Visitation

A Visitation is an informal gathering for friends and family to express sympathy, view photographs/video tribute, etc. You are invited to consider First Lutheran for the visitation when you work with a professional Funeral Director.

Will a Visitation be Held?

- Yes
- No

Location of Visitation

- At First Lutheran Church
- At the Funeral Home
- Other: _____

Will the Remains be Present at the Visitation?

- Coffin with Viewing of Body
- Closed Coffin
- Urn with Photograph next to it
- No Remains Present

Time of the Visitation

- Evening Prior to the Funeral or Memorial Service
- Before the Funeral or Memorial Service Only
- Both

Displays

- Photographic Displays
- Mementos (Awards, Certificates, etc.)
- Bible of the Deceased
- Video Tribute (Usually Produced by the Funeral Home)
- Other: _____

Christian Worship Service Plans

Location of Service

- First Lutheran Church
- Funeral Home
- Cemetery (A Graveside Service Only)
- Other: _____ (i.e. Care Facility Chapel, etc.)

Time of the Worship Service

- Morning _____
- Afternoon _____
- Evening _____

Will the Remains be Present at the Worship Service?

- Yes (Coffin or Urn with Ashes)
- No

Will Holy Communion be celebrated? *(Only available for services at First Lutheran)*

- Yes
- No

Display Items to be On or Near the Casket/Urn

- Floral Spray and/or additional Flower Bouquets
- Bible or Other Symbol of Faith: _____
- Photograph

The Funeral Pall will always be used to cover the casket during the worship service; family members are invited to participate in covering the casket. Does a family member want to place pall on casket/urn?

- Yes _____
- No

Favorite Biblical Theme or Image _____

Readers

- The Pastor who officiates will read.
- I would like this/these person(s) to read at my service: _____

Bible Readings

- The Pastor who officiates may choose the readings
- My Family will choose the readings.
- I have chosen the readings as indicated below:

Old Testament	New Testament
Job 19:23-27	Romans 8:14-23, 31-39
Isaiah 40:1-11, 28-31; Isaiah 40:28-31; Isaiah 65:17	Romans 14:7-9, 10b-12
Psalms 23; Psalm 46:1-5, 10-11; Psalm 90:1-10, 12;	1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 50, 53-58
Psalm 121; Psalm 130; Psalm 139:1-12	2 Corinthians 4:16-5:1
Gospels	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 5:1-12a	Revelation 21:1-4, 22-25, 22:3-5
Luke 23:33, 39-4	Revelation 22:1-5
John 11:17-27	
John 14:1-6, 25-27	

Other Readings Selected (Pastor Loufman often chooses a separate reading for her homily):

Congregational Hymns

- The Pastor who officiates may choose the hymns.
- My family will choose the hymns
- I have chosen the hymns as indicated below:

Suggested Hymns

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautiful Savior | <input type="checkbox"/> Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I Know That My Redeemer Lives! | <input type="checkbox"/> Love Divine All Loves Excelling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> O God, Our Help in Ages Past | <input type="checkbox"/> For All the Saints |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The King of Love My Shepherd Is | <input type="checkbox"/> Holy God, Holy and Glorious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Lord's My Shepherd | <input type="checkbox"/> Thy Holy Wings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing | <input type="checkbox"/> My Faith Looks up to Thee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less | <input type="checkbox"/> Amazing Grace |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light | <input type="checkbox"/> Alleluia! Jesus is Risen! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Give me Jesus | |

Other Hymns Selected: _____

Soloist

If possible, I would like this vocalist to sing:

Vocal Solos Selected (*Selection of solos must aim to reflect the spirit of Christian worship.*)

Remembrances to be Shared During Worship by a Family Member or a Friend.

A Christian service emphasizes the hope we have in Christ; remembrances at the reception following allow for greater opportunity for story-telling and sharing. If shared within the service, one or two people sharing for no more than 3 minutes is preferable.

- Yes
- No

I would like following person(s) to speak:

Confession of Faith/Apostles' Creed

- Yes
- No

Lord's Prayer and Prayers (Which Lord's Prayer? _____)

Does a family member want to carry the cross?

- Yes _____
- No

Does funeral home provide ushers?

- Yes
- No

Should church provide ushers?

- Yes
- No

Reception Following Worship

I would like a reception following the service for mutual conversation and consolation.

- Yes
- No

I would like the reception

- Immediately Following the Worship Service (before burial)
- Following the Worship Service and After Burial

Location for the reception

- First Lutheran Church
- Other Location: _____

Menu for the Reception

- Dessert and Coffee/Beverage
- Light Lunch (Sandwiches, Salads, dessert)
- Secure your own caterer and wait staff.
- Other: _____

Funeral Home

Preferred Company _____
(Specific arrangements in advance at the funeral home of your choice are encouraged.)

Have Pre-arrangements Been Made?

- Yes
- No

Disposition of the Body

<input type="checkbox"/> Embalm Body (Usually required if un-refrigerated over 24 hrs before burial)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cremate Body Shortly After Death
<input type="checkbox"/> Cremate Body After Visitation/Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Burial
<input type="checkbox"/> Internment	<input type="checkbox"/> Crypt
<input type="checkbox"/> Eco/Green/Natural Burial	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Burial Wishes

- Bury Coffin/Urn in Cemetery
- Other: _____
(This might include keeping ashes with a family member, spreading ashes at a favorite spot, etc)

Bury Coffin or Urn

- Before Visitation
- After Visitation but Before Funeral Service
- After Luncheon Reception
- At a Later Date: _____

Grave Marker

I have made arrangements for a grave marker with this company: _____

I would like the following to be included on the grave marker:

- Name: _____
- Dates: (birth/death dates) _____
- Maiden name: _____
- Bible Verse: _____
- Graphic: _____
- Other: _____

Eligible for Military Honors

- Yes
- No

Names of Pall Bearers *(Six Pall Bearers needed only when there is a coffin for burial.)*

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Honorary Pall Bearers:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Cemetery

- I have made arrangements for my burial:

Name of Cemetery _____

Location of Cemetery _____

- I do not have arrangements for my burial. I suggest the following arrangements:

- I have arrangements for a memorial marker with the following company:

(Include Contact Information)

Desired Expressions of Sympathy

- Flowers
- I desire Memorial Gifts in lieu of Flowers

Memorial Suggestions

- First Lutheran Church Foundation
This is an Endowed Fund where memorial gifts are invested, and the interest growth is disbursed annually to support a variety of ministries of First Lutheran.
- First Lutheran's Memorial Fund
- Specific Ministry _____
- Specific Community Project/ Organization: _____

Obituary

Full Name (including Maiden Name): _____

Date of Death and Location: _____

Birth Date and Location: _____

Parent's Names (including Mother's Maiden Name): _____

Baptism Date, Church, and Location: _____

Confirmation Date, Church, and Location: _____

Marital Status, Marriage Date, and Name of Spouse: _____

Other Marriages/Divorces/Spouse(s): _____

Names of Children: _____

Additional Next of Kin: _____

Personal History

On a separate page, record additional information including place(s) of residence, special events, hobbies/interests, schools attended and degrees received, accomplishments, memberships, employment history, volunteer activities, military service, etc. Include as many full names, city of residence, birth and death dates, etc. as possible. All this information is important to your family.