

FUNERAL SERVICE PLANNER

ZOAR LUTHERAN CHURCH

314 E. Indiana Ave. † Perrysburg, Ohio 43551 † 419-874-4346

*"We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
For to this end Christ died and lived again,
so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living" (Romans 14:7-9)*

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we live in the hope of the resurrection and eternal life. Therein, planning for the end of our life (e.g., pre-planning funeral/memorial services, planning giving through memorial gifts and estates, creation of and clarity in a will) is an opportunity to express our confidence in our God through Jesus Christ. This arrangement form is provided so that you might:

1. Consider the witness you wish to make of your faith in Jesus Christ through your funeral/memorial service;
2. Inform your family of your wishes and desires.

Investing the time to complete this form **and discussing your wishes with your family is an act of loving them.** Completing this form, discussing it with your family, returning the original to the church office, will all be of great aid to your family when difficult days come. At the time of your death, the form will guide the Pastor and Church Staff in assisting your family. Copies of this completed form will gladly be made for you. If you should desire to make any changes in your planning, please contact the Pastor so appropriate notations may be made to the form.

Please complete the form in ink, leaving no space blank (use "N/A" for areas that do not apply) in order to keep ambiguities and questions to a minimum.

May God guide you in considering the stewardship of the life and faith God has given you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Date of birth: _____ Location: _____

Immediate Family: (spouse, children, and/or closest living relations/relatives)

(Name) (Relationship) (Phone)

(Name) (Relationship) (Phone)

(Name) (Relationship) (Phone)

(Name) (Relationship) (Phone)

Disposition of Remains: (Please check all those that apply.)

(What is to happen to your body upon your death.)

_____ Embalming and burial

Final Resting Place:

Cemetery or Mausoleum (Please circle preference):

Name: _____

Location: _____

Are lots or vaults already purchased? (Yes/No)

Is a burial marker (stone) at the gravesite? (Yes/No)

_____ Cremation. I desire my body to be cremated and

_____ my remains be buried in the cemetery or columbarium/niche located at _____

_____ my remains to be buried in Zoar's Memorial Garden

_____ my remains to be placed/scattered (please specify) by _____

_____ Anatomical Donation (Body donated for medical research.)

(These arrangements must be made prior to death.)

Name of medical institution: _____

_____ Other (please specify): _____

Funeral Home:

Name of funeral home to arrange desired funeral (with body present) or memorial (without body present) services:

Preferred funeral home: _____

Phone: _____

Have you pre-planned with this funeral home (Yes / No)

Funeral or Memorial Service:

The Church sees the funeral or memorial service as a worship service, whether in the church (the preferred location for a baptized person) or another setting. Such services of worship are for the living to hear God’s promises of the resurrection of the dead and eternal life through Jesus Christ. As such, an open casket during worship or following is not appropriate.

Thanking God for and celebrating your life is a resurrection activity! What a gift it is for you to give to your loved ones a gift of faith, a proclamation that your life and their lives are gathered into God’s promises that “neither life nor death” can separate anyone from God.

Location of funeral service:

- _____ at Zoar Lutheran Church (preferred location)
- _____ in the funeral home
- _____ other (please be specific): _____

Your favorite Bible passages: 3-4 Scripture readings[‡] are read during worship. Readings in addition to the Holy Scriptures are used sparingly and with great caution as most are generally inappropriate.

Questions to ponder: This is an opportunity for you to witness to the truth of God in Christ in your life. What Scripture passages hold meaning and aid for you during difficult times? On the day of your funeral, what Scripture passage(s) do you want to share with your friends and loved ones as a rock to stand on, a refuge to find shelter in, a hope that death cannot destroy?

1: _____ 2: _____

3: _____ 4: _____

[‡] Some possible texts: Psalm 23; 42:1-7; Ps 46:1-7; Ps 121; Ps 143; Job 19:23-27a; Isaiah 25:6-9; Isaiah 61:1-3; *Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33; Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; Romans 5:1-11; Romans 5:17-21; Romans 8:31-35, 37-39; First Corinthians 13:1-13; First Corinthians 15:12-26; First Peter 1:3-9; *First John 3:1-2; Revelation 7:9-17; Revelation 21:2-7; *Matthew 11:25-30; Matthew 25:1-13; Luke 12:35-40; John 5:24-29; *John 6:37-40; John 11:21-27; John 14:1-6
(*Appropriate at the burial of a child.)

Your favorite hymns: 3-4 hymns may be sung by the congregation during a funeral service. Hymns are a gift from God, an amazing way to share faith and express grief at the same time. Preferred hymns are those found in the congregation's current hymnal. (Some appropriate hymns: *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*; *Abide With Me*; *Amazing Grace*; *For All the Saints*; *I Know that My Redeemer Lives*; *Lift High the Cross*; *The Church's One Foundation*; also look in the *ELW* (the cranberry hymnal) under the hymns for Easter (#416-432).

For worship: _____

Prior to worship: _____

Do you desire any special music, instrumental or soloist? (Yes / No)

Suggested selections and/or persons: _____

Communion: Yes _____ No _____

Bereavement Meal: In speaking with your family, do they desire to have a bereavement meal at the church following the services? (Yes / No)

Pall bearers: Do you have any preferences as to whom your family should ask to be pall bearers?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

Military and other ritual/services to be conducted outside/after Christian worship.

Military: Yes / No

Other (please specify): _____

Have you made arrangements to provide a legacy gift to Zoar? ___Yes ___No