

Some Suggested Scripture Passages:

Psalm 23	Romans 8
Psalm 46	1 Corinthians 15
Psalm 146	John 14

Resources:

On Death and Dying, Elisabeth Kubler-Ross
(Macmillan, 1969)
Good Grief, Granger Westberg
(Augsburg Fortress)
When a Loved One Dies, Phillip Williams
(Discipleship Resources)
A Time to Mourn, Ron DelBene
(Abingdon Press)
Near Life's End, Ron DelBene
(Abingdon Press)

For Children:

The Fall of Freddie the Leaf, Leo Buscaglia
(Slack)



United Methodist Church

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WHEN A LOVED ONE DIES



With Deepest Sympathies

The loss of someone we love is one of the most stressful and trying times for a family. It is during these times of loss and sorrow that we experience our deepest need for God and the Church. Likewise, the Church becomes, in times of sorrow and death, the arms of Christ for a hurting family, supporting those who mourn with prayers and assistance.

When you experience the loss of a loved one, it is important that you contact the Church, so that appropriate care and response can begin. In addition, you may want to contact your pastor soon afterwards, so that arrangements can be made for the funeral memorial service. Planning the service, and talking about the loved one who has died, can be both healing and meaningful as thoughts and prayers are shared. Your pastor can offer guidance in organizing the service that will be beneficial and memorable.

Many families may choose to have the funeral service in a mortuary (funeral home). Others will choose to have the worship service in the church building. Either way, your loved one will be honored and remembered.

The Church also offers a funeral dinner or luncheon to grieving families, usually following the service. This dinner is held in the Fellowship Hall. Our funeral meal coordinator will contact your family regarding meal arrangements, including estimated costs.

Through the first days of grief, it is important for a family to know that they have the love and support of their Church family, and that God cares. Our prayers are with you during this time of loss, and we hope that you will find healing and hope in the days to come.

~ Your Pastors

Fees for funeral services are outlined below:

Pastor	Honorarium
Member	
Organist	\$150.00
Soloist	\$100.00
Sound Operator	\$30.00
Site Supervisor	\$75
Meal	See the funeral meal coordinator

Visitation Prior to Funeral/Memorial Service:

Ridge Church is able to provide space and time for visitation by family and friends. The parlor will be designated for family to use for snacks and drinks.

Memorial Gifts to Ridge Church:

At the time of death, many families suggest that their friends donate to a charity in lieu of sending flowers. The Ridge United Methodist Church Memorial Fund receives gifts from members and friends in memory of persons who are deceased and in honor of living persons.

Acknowledging Gifts

The Church acknowledges these gifts to the donor and provides a list of the donors to the family of the deceased or to the honoree. A permanent record is kept of all memorial gifts.

Use of Memorial Funds

Depending on the wishes of the family or honoree, the funds may be used for a prioritized need from the Church's Memorial Gift Opportunities List. You can even direct which program you would like to see supported with your gifts.