# Funeral Handbook

Sunnybrook Community Church



## **Contact Information**

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## **Christian Funerals**

The loss of a loved one is never an easy time in the life of family and friends. Sometimes the loss is expected and anticipated, giving families time to say their "goodbyes" and to at least mentally plan for the final arrangements. Other times, it is totally unexpected and grief-stricken families must make these decisions under time pressures.

You do not have to be a member of Sunnybrook Community Church to have the funeral service conducted by Sunnybrook staff—either on site or off site. It is the goal and hope of Sunnybrook staff and volunteers that they can be there to minister with you in this time.

The bottom line is that God loves you; He sees your hurt and pain. The Sunnybrook Funeral Ministry team wants to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ as they help you walk through this valley of sadness and grief. We have prepared this booklet and these guidelines to help with decisions and to assist you during these difficult days.

## Roles

#### **Funeral Coordinator**

Sunnybrook employs a Funeral Coordinator to assist the details of the service.

Coordinator duties include, but are not limited to:

- Secure volunteers as needed
- Work with the family to coordinate reception/ luncheon if it is held at Sunnybrook.
- Will be present for services hosted at Sunnybrook.

#### **Officiant**

Funeral/Memorial services are conducted by one of the Sunnybrook officiants. The officiant will meet with the family prior to the funeral/memorial service to offer comfort and to help the family in planning for the funeral service(s) of their loved one. He/she will approve the musical selections, conduct the service(s) and deliver the message.

If there is a family member or friend who is an ordained Pastor in another Christian church that you would like to officiate the service(s), prior approval from Sunnybrook is necessary.

## Sample of Order of Worship

- » Prelude
- » Seating of the Family
- » Opening Scripture
- » Prayer
- » Scripture
- » Music (Optional)
- » Scripture & Message
- » Music (Optional)
- » Time of Sharing (Optional)
- » Prayer
- » Recessional

# Sunnybrook Community Church Fees

Sunnybrook Officiant conducting funeral\$200
Sunnybrook Officiant for services other than the day of the funeral\$100
Sunnybrook Officiant mileage for out of town services(current IRS rate)
Funeral Coordinator\$100
Funeral Coord/services other than the day of the funeral\$50
Sunnybrook Musicians (per person)\$75
Technical Support\$100
Technical Support/services other than the day of the funeral\$50
Custodian\$100
Luncheon at Sunnybrook\$100

Additional fees could apply if service is held in the auditorium. Check should be made payable to the funeral home and the funeral home will be responsible for making payment to Sunnybrook. If a funeral home is not being used, fees can be payed directly to Sunnybrook.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Flowers**: The family is responsible for the distribution of all floral arrangements and potted plants after the service.

**Video recording:** Sunnybrook allows the video taping of funeral/memorial services if desired by the family but does not have the capacity to offer this service.

## **Post Funeral Support**

**Grief Share -** This is a 13 week support group that meets at Sunnybrook and is designed to support its participants as they progress through the grief journey. This group is available to anyone that is experiencing grief and open if you desire to join. You can learn more about this ministry at www.griefshare.org

**Grief Support for Teens -** This 13 week grief support group is for any teenager who has experienced the death of a loved one.

**Surviving the Holidays -** This one night class, sponsored by the grief share program, offers help and hope as you navigate the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas. You do not need to be enrolled in the Grief Share group to attend this holiday group.

**Bereaved Mothers Group -** Sharing hope by connecting in community. A supportive community for mothers who have experienced the death of a child of any age.

**Grief Counseling -** Services are available for your journey in the grieving process.

If you are interested in any of the above options, contact the church office for more information.



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