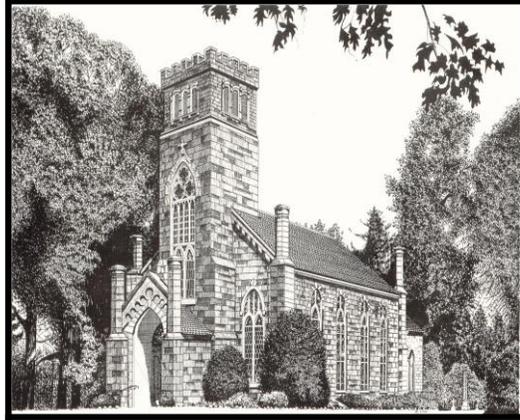


A PASTORAL CARE PLAN
for the
CHRISTIAN END-OF-LIFE JOURNEY

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
and
ALL SAINTS CHAPEL

“Jesus said, ‘This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him my have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.’”

John 6:37-40



Grace Episcopal Church and All Saints Chapel

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February 2017

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Grace and All Saints,

It is our hope that this booklet will help you. End-of-life planning can be intimidating and seem overwhelming. And yet it can be such a gift to those you love.

Please review the contents of this booklet with your family and, as appropriate, consult professional counsel. Certainly, feel free to talk with any of us. Ensure that a copy of these records is kept in a safe and readily accessible place. A copy of funeral plans may also be filed with Angie Wilfong. Extra copies of this booklet can be obtained upon request.

“O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we pray, deeply aware of the shortness and uncertainty of human life; and let your Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; that, when we shall have served you in our generation, we may be gathered to our ancestors, having the testimony of a good conscience, in the communion of the Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a religious and holy hope, in favor with you, our God, and in perfect charity with the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (The Book of Common Prayer, page 504)

The Rev. G. Miles Smith, Rector
The Rev. Carol C. Sims, Priest Associate
The Rev. Don Cady, Deacon

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Introduction

Planning your own funeral is a loving gift you can give to your family and loved ones. First, it relieves them of the burden of planning the service at a very difficult time. Second, it gives them the comfort of knowing that the service will be conducted the way you wanted it. Finally, showing that you anticipated death and planned a Christian service reassures them that you did not believe that death is finally victorious. It is your statement that you believe that as they are making preparations for your funeral with your advance thoughts that you are with God.

This form is not intended to take the place of conversations with your priest. The form will, however, help you know what you want to discuss.

A Few Practical Tips

1. You will need a The Book of Common Prayer to complete this form. If you do not have one please inquire with the church office or look online here under "Pastoral Offices" for the Burial Rite: <http://www.bcponline.org/>.
2. After finalizing your plans, if you have questions, please confer with a member of the Clergy. Make 2 copies of the plan, one to give to your family, a copy for yourself, and a copy to be kept at the church for their files.

Preliminary Matters

Who is the next of kin or the person(s) who will be making the arrangements?

Address and Telephone Number: _____

Where do you want the service to be held? Church Funeral Home
 Graveside only

Do you want to be cremated or buried? Cremated Buried

If you are going to be cremated, how do you want your ashes interred? _____

Do you have a burial plot? Yes No If "yes," where is it?

If you wish to use the Grace Church graveyard for a burial or for scattering ashes, please call Angie Wilfong at the church office for more information on the contract and costs: 434-293-3549 or parishadministrator@gracekeswick.org.

If you have a preference for a funeral home, which one?

Hill & Wood Funeral Service, 434-296-6148,

Preddy's Funeral Home, Orange, Va. 540-672-3611

Teague Funeral Home, 434-977-0005

Other: _____

Have you made arrangements with one? Name: _____

Do you want altar flowers (yes or no)? _____

If there are additional flowers they would be used only at a visitation and/or the graveside.

How do you wish to receive guests:

A visitation at the funeral home the night before the service?

A reception after the service in the parish hall, at home, or another facility?

Or, just informally at the conclusion of the service?

If you would like friends to make a donation to a charity in lieu of sending flowers, list the charity and the address.

If you are planning for the burial of a body you may wish to think about who you would like to have as the pallbearers (six is the customary number):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Planning the Service

Choose Burial Rite I or II

Rite I in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 469, has older language reminiscent of the 1928 Prayer Book. Rite II, p. 491, has language more familiar today. The structures of the services are the same.

“Concerning the Service” (p. 468 or 490)

You should read this page for miscellaneous information. In particular, note that the generally preferred location for the service is the church. During the service, caskets are closed and normally covered with a pall. Flowers are not placed on the casket during the service unless a pall is not available.

Readings - See the Appendix for suggested Scripture

Both rites have suggested options for scripture readings. It is customary to use at least three readings, one from the Old Testament, one from the New Testament (Epistle), and a reading from the Gospel (which is required if you are going to have Communion). You can, however, have fewer readings and in a different configuration (such as two from the New Testament). These readings are listed in the Appendix to this document.

Suggested psalms are also listed. You do not have to use a psalm. If you include a psalm, it will come after the Old Testament reading. If you wish to use Psalm 23 there are two versions available: p. 476 and p. 612.

Selected Readings:

Psalm

If you would like to suggest people to read at the service, please add their names:

The Eulogy

Sometimes it may be appropriate for specific individuals to offer a brief eulogy of your life. A eulogy is a short talk that shares cherished memories of the deceased. One or two family members or friends usually fill this role. Do you have any preferences for who might do so?

The Homily

If you would like anything in particular emphasized during the homily, please make a note of it on the last page or below. This can be of great assistance to the priest who traditionally speaks from the Gospel lesson you have selected and how it may reflect your life.

Holy Communion

For logistical reasons, Holy Communion cannot be included in services at graveside or funeral homes. It is good to include Holy Communion in a church service if the majority of those attending are from Grace or other Episcopal churches. If you anticipate a very mixed congregation or a majority attending from non-Episcopalian churches then it can be less confusing to omit Holy Communion. Holy Communion may also be omitted if there is a priority on keeping the service shorter.

_____Celebrate Eucharist _____Omit Eucharist

Music

You may plan the music in great detail, or you can leave it up to the Director of Music, Michael Latsko. Music is a very important reason to consider having the service at the church. Of course, there is no music at graveside (except the occasional bag piper), and the availability of music at funeral homes varies widely. Remember that the burial service is an Easter service, and the music should generally reflect the tone of the Resurrection.

In general, the opportunities for instrumental music are the prelude and postlude unless there is Holy Communion and then there can be additional instrumental music for the offertory and communion. If you wish to have hymns sung there are generally up to three possibilities: the entrance hymn, a gradual hymn between the New Testament and Gospel readings (if reading both), and an exit hymn. You can choose to have 3, 2, 1, or no congregational hymns.

The following are some suggestions from The Hymnal 1982 which are particularly appropriate for funerals. All musical selections that are not from the three Episcopal Church approved hymnals, must be approved by the Director of Music or the Clergy. You can call the church office to arrange to see a copy of each hymnal.

A \$150 honorarium is standard practice at this time for the Director of Music.

Suggested Hymns

207	Jesus Christ is risen today	620	Jerusalem my happy home	42	Now the day is over
167	There is a green hill far away	179	Welcome happy morning	208	The strife is o'er
287	For all the saints	324	Let all mortal flesh keep silence	362	Holy, holy, holy
376	Joyful, joyful, we adore thee	383	Fairest, Lord Jesus	410	Praise, my soul, the King of heaven
439	What wondrous love is this	688	A mighty fortress is our God	474	When I survey the wondrous cross
482	Lord of all hopefulness	488	Be thou my vision	498	Beneath the cross of Jesus
518	Christ is made the sure foundation	525	The Church's one foundation	624	Jerusalem the golden
645	The King of love my shepherd is	657	Love divine, all loves excelling	660	O Master, let me walk with thee
662	Abide with me	671	Amazing Grace	680	O God, our help in ages past
691	My faith looks up the thee	608	Eternal Father, Strong	473	Lift High the Cross

My hymn # selections are: (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____

If you have a desire for any special music other than instrumental and congregational hymns then please make a note of this here. You are asked to make your own arrangements and inform the church.

Addendum: Writing an Obituary

Use this section as an outline, checklist, sample format, or template to writing an obituary.

The following headings are meant as a general guide. Make sure that you have considered everything that is usually covered, then select what you would like to include, and also decide what order you would like to use.

- **NAME / ANNOUNCEMENT**

- **Full name of the deceased, including nickname, if any**
- **Age at death**
- **Residence (for example, the name of the city) at death**
- **Day and date of death (remember to include the year)**
- **Place of death**
- **Cause of death**

- **LIFE**

- **Date of birth**
- **Place of birth**
- **Names of parents**
- **Childhood: siblings, stories, schools, friends**
- **Marriage(s): date of, place, name of spouse**

- **Education: school, college, university and other**
- **Designations, awards, and other recognition**
- **Employment: jobs, activities, stories, colleagues, satisfactions, promotions, union activities, frustrations,**
- **Places of residence**
- **Hobbies, sports, interests, activities, and other enjoyment**
- **Charitable, religious, fraternal, political, and other affiliations; positions held**
- **Achievements**
- **Disappointments**
- **Unusual attributes, humor, other stories**

- **FAMILY**

- **Survived by (and place of residence):**

- **Spouse**
 - **Children (in order of date of birth, and their spouses)**
 - **Grandchildren**
 - **Great-grandchildren**
 - **Great-great-grandchildren**
 - **Parents**
 - **Grandparents**
 - **Siblings (in order of date of birth)**
 - **Others, such as nephews, nieces, cousins, in-laws**
 - **Friends**
 - **Pets (if appropriate)**

- **Predeceased by (and date of death):**

- **Spouse**
 - **Children (in order of date of birth)**
 - **Grandchildren**
 - **Siblings (in order of date of birth)**
 - **Others, such as nephews, nieces, cousins, in-laws**
 - **Pets (if appropriate)**

- **SERVICE**

- **Day, date, time, place**
 - **Name of officiant, pallbearers, honorary pallbearers, other information**
 - **Visitation information if applicable: day, date, time, place**
 - **Reception information if applicable: day, date, time, place**
 - **Other memorial, vigil, or graveside services if applicable: day, date, time, place**
 - **Place of interment**
 - **Name of funeral home in charge of arrangements**
 - **Where to call for more information (even if no service planned)**

- **END**

- **Memorial funds established**
 - **Memorial donation suggestions, including addresses**
 - **Thank you to people, groups, or institutions**
 - **Quotation or poem**
 - **Three words that sum up the life** Source: <http://ancestry.com/>

Appendix: Some Scripture Readings

From the Old Testament

Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death for ever)
Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort those who mourn)
Lamentations 3:22-26,31-33 (The Lord is good to those who wait for him)
Wisdom 3:1-5,9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God)
Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)

A psalm may follow, such as:

23, 27, 42:1-7, 46, 90:1-12, 106:1-5, 116, 121, 130, 139:1-11

From the New Testament

Romans 8:14-19,34-35,37-39 (The glory that shall be revealed)
1 Corinthians 15:20-26,35-38,42-44,53-58 (The imperishable body)
2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (Things that are unseen are eternal)
1 John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)
Revelation 7:9-17 (God will wipe away every tear)
Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

The Gospel

John 5:24-27 (He who believes has everlasting life)
John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to you)
John 10:11-16 (I am the good shepherd)
John 11:21-27 (I am the resurrection and the life)
John 14:1-6 (In my Father's house are many rooms)

Additional Items to Consider:

*Have you completed a Will?

*Have you considered a Virginia Advance Directive and appointed an Agent who will make known your wishes in the event that you are incapable of making an informed decision regarding your health care? You can find this document on line at: *<https://www.virginiaregistry.org>*

*Have you appointed and codified a Medical Power of Attorney?

*Have you completed a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) directive?

If you have not completed these items and wish to do so, you may want to consult an attorney.

Planned Giving

The future of Grace Church can be significantly blessed by a bequest from your Will. If you wish to discuss this further, please contact our Planned Giving Consultant, Lois Post, at 434-295-7647 or svtopaz@aol.com.

Notes and Further Wishes or Information: