



WOODCLIFF
United Church

Planning a Funeral

Thank you for asking us to accompany you on this journey of remembering your loved one.

Remembering Your Loved One

In the midst of the grief and sorrow that accompanies death, we seek to be of assistance to you as you plan the memorial/funeral service. This brochure offers some suggestions to help you with the planning of the service and the reception that may follow.

Pre-Planning

You are encouraged to contact a funeral service provider before the death of your loved one, if possible, to facilitate the care of your family member at the time of death.

Compassionate Support

Our Minister can be contacted at any time prior to the death of your loved one to offer comfort, support and prayer as you and your loved one walk this path.

Time and Date

When death has occurred, you are asked to contact our office administrative coordinator at 403-249-3121 to arrange a time and date for the memorial/funeral service and to set up an appointment with the Minister to begin planning the service. Our sanctuary can seat 250 guests comfortably and more can be accommodated if needed.

Music

Our music director is available to offer suggestions for music and hymns to be used during the service.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, nor anything else in all of creation will be able to separate us from the love of God.

– Romans 8:38-39

As well, Woodcliff has several soloists available. If you have a family member or friend you have invited to sing during the service, our music director can arrange a rehearsal time. Our music director has the right of first refusal on all memorial/funeral services conducted at Woodcliff United Church. If you should choose to use taped music for the service, our music director is the one who grants permission for its use, ensuring the appropriate music is chosen for a church setting. Other music may also be used as part of the service if you so desire.

The Service

The memorial/funeral service is a Christian worship service, celebrating the life of your loved one. Appropriate readings, both scriptural and secular, can be chosen with the assistance of our Minister. Eulogies and tributes are welcome, as are PowerPoint presentations. If a family member is a Minister from another church, he/she is welcome to participate in the service, but the Minister of Woodcliff United Church conducts the service. The church is also available for rental for memorial/funeral services by families outside of the church community.

The Reception

Receptions are hosted by members of the Pastoral Care Committee of Woodcliff United Church. Reception hosts are provided for memorial/funeral receptions of congregational members. Families must provide their own food. We help set the food on trays. Our kitchen services include linens, napkins, dishes, cutlery, servings trays, utensils, coffee, tea, water, juice, and ice. Caretaking is provided to set up the sanctuary and reception area and to clean up after the service and the reception. Our church administrative coordinator will provide you with the name of our funeral reception coordinator.

Flowers & Decorations

Flowers and decorations for the sanctuary may be used as part of the service. Candelabras are available from the church. Please contact the church office with additional questions about any special set up needs.

Grief Counselling

As you walk your journey of grief, you may need help to deal with the wide range of emotions that beset you as you journey. Alberta Health Services (Calgary) offers a variety of grief support programs which provide a safe, supportive and healing environment for you to process your grief in meaningful ways. To request grief counseling services, please call the Grief Support Program at 403-943-3533, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or visit their website at www.calgaryhealthregion.ca/programs/griefsupport. Our Minister is also available and willing to offer compassionate support to you in your time of bereavement.

A few more things you might be wondering about...

Funeral Costs

The costs for conducting a memorial/funeral service for your loved one at Woodcliff United Church vary according to the option you choose. You may decide, for example, to not hold a reception at the church or not to make use of a soloist. Please discuss the fee schedule with our Minister or our office administrative coordinator at the time of the memorial/funeral service. Please make cheques payable to Woodcliff United Church. Donations to Woodcliff United Church, beyond the established fee schedule, are offered at your discretion. A charitable tax receipt will be issued for any such donation.

More questions?

Our Minister is available to meet with you at your convenience, or if you have other questions, please contact the church office using the information below.



Sunday services are at 10 a.m.

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