

MEMORIAL SERVICES GUIDE



At Asbury, we consider it a privilege to be part of honoring the life of your loved one. We do this through a memorial service.

The memorial service exists for two reasons:

- To honor the person who has passed away
- To speak words of faith in Jesus Christ to the congregation

At the time of death, you will need to make the following phone calls:

1. The funeral home

There are wonderfully skilled and caring directors at the local funeral homes. You will want to write down the phone number of that place here.

2. Asbury

Call **918.492.1771** and tell the receptionist what has happened or you can reach **Asbury's Bereavement Coordinator Sheryl Martin at 918.381.5659 (cell)**. We will begin the process of helping you plan the memorial service, including contacting a pastor.



3. Asbury Community

If you or your loved one was involved in an Asbury Community, you will want to contact them to let them know what has happened.



THINGS TO KNOW

Pre-planning with the funeral home is very helpful. Generally, the service is held about three days after the death. Plans need to be finalized so out-of-town family and friends can make their plans. After establishing the service time, you will visit with the funeral home to make preparations.

You will also visit with the pastor about the service. Asbury's staff will assist you in coordinating all details for the memorial service.

The day of the memorial service is difficult; saying goodbye to a loved one is not easy. As Easter people, we believe that this life is not over when the body is left behind. For that reason, Asbury does the interment service before the memorial service. We do not have either a casket or urn present in the Chapel or Sanctuary during the memorial service. This sequence helps us make our service a celebration of life and eternal life. Feel free to talk to a pastor or the Bereavement Coordinator if you have further questions about this policy.

All are invited by usually only the family and close friends attend the interment. The pastor presides over the brief interment. It lasts only a few minutes. Scripture and a committal prayer are offered. The pastor may invite others to briefly share their thoughts at this time. Then we return to the church for the memorial service.



The following questions will help you with the decisions to be made and the planning to go more smoothly.

1. Do I want to hold the service at Asbury?

Graveside/interment occurs about one hour before the service. An Asbury pastor may officiate at another location (funeral home, graveside, etc.) Services are held in Mason Chapel. Discuss exceptions with the Bereavement Coordinator. If you choose to have a service at the funeral home or at the graveside, then that needs to be cleared only with the funeral home and the pastor conducting the service.

2. When can I have the service?

Monday 1-3 pm

Tuesday/Friday 10 am-3 pm

Saturday 10 am-2 pm

(building closes at 3 pm; if reception is held, cleanup needs to be done by 3 pm)

3. How soon after death should the service be scheduled?

Service should be scheduled at least three days after death. If cremated, you can wait as long as necessary.

4. How do I purchase a niche in Asbury's columbarium?

Contact **Jenny Stevens at 918.392.1124**. A niche can be purchased at the time of death or as part of the pre-planning process. It will take three to five days to obtain an engraved marker, urn and nameplate.

5. Obituary

You may want to write an obituary for the *Tulsa World*. Some of our pastors will amplify this obituary, using your words as their guide.

SERVICE CONTENTS

Asbury will help you design a memorial service that honors the memory of your loved one.

We will provide a bulletin which is a "Call to Worship" from the Methodist hymnal (page 870). This includes a greeting, the Apostles' Creed, a congregational prayer and the Lord's Prayer.

1. Do I want a video/slideshow?

You may have the video produced at Asbury or elsewhere. However, an Asbury pastor must approve the music whether it is produced by Asbury or elsewhere.

If Asbury makes the video, 55-60 pictures and two to three songs, makes a good five to seven minute video which is an appropriate length. Pictures/songs are needed at least 72 hours prior to service. Pictures may be scanned to disc or flash drive, or you may bring actual pictures, placed in the order to be viewed. Songs may be on CD or flash drive, in the order to be played. Asbury can download songs but cannot guarantee artist or album you selected. If video is produced elsewhere, Asbury needs it on flash drive/disc/email 48 hours prior to service.

2. Do I have specific scriptures I want read? And hymns/worship songs I want the congregation to sing?

Please let the pastor know.

4. Do I want someone to sing a solo/play an instrument?

Only an Asbury organist may play the organ. You may invite your own pianist/singer/other instrumentalist.

5. Do I have to get my own musicians/pastor/sound tech/ushers, etc.?

The Asbury Bereavement Coordinator will procure needed personnel for the service at Asbury. Please notify Asbury Bereavement Coordinator if you would like specific people as musicians or ushers.

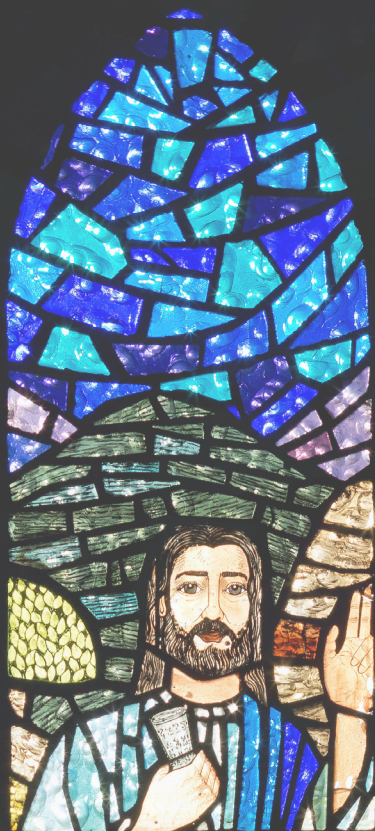
6. Do I want a specific pastor to officiate? Some Asbury pastors feel honored to serve, however some may not be available.

Select two/three choices of Asbury pastors, to allow for their availability. Check with the Asbury Bereavement Coordinator regarding a pastor from another church/denomination.

**7. Do I want someone besides the pastor to speak?
A relative, friend, or business associate?**

Some want another person to speak (a “eulogy”) in addition to the pastor. This is certainly appropriate, but also consider having something written down which the pastor could read. Most find it hard to deliver a eulogy for a loved one, but this is the family’s decision. We do not like the services to last longer than an hour.





OTHER DETAILS

1. Do I want a light reception after the service to give an opportunity to visit with people who attend?

Location can be in the main foyer, CLC or Family Room. Usually the Asbury Discipleship Community will provide a reception. If the member is not part of a Community, Asbury's Reception Ministry will host.

2. Do I want a meal for the immediate family?

Your Community provides either a meal OR a reception. If you are having the meal catered, the Asbury Bereavement Coordinator can arrange a room, either the CLC or Family Room.

3. Do I provide the guest book?

The funeral home usually provides one. If you are not using a funeral home, Asbury will provide the guest book. You may bring your own if you choose.

4. Do I provide the flowers?

Your choice; florists may deliver to the south entrance the day before or the Chapel the day of the service.

5. What happens with the flowers?

There is no flower ministry at Asbury. Generally, the family/funeral home takes all flowers immediately following service. However, if flowers are left at Asbury, they will be disposed of.

6. Can I have a picture on the bulletin? Obituary? Memorial donation designation? Poem?

The funeral home may be able to print a picture on the memorial folder. Asbury's bulletin does not have a picture. A memorial donation designation can be included, if desired. Check with the Asbury Bereavement Coordinator regarding space for an obituary, poetry, etc.

2021 COSTS

If DECEASED is a member of Asbury:

Pastor	Voluntary honorarium; suggested \$150 for service, \$200 for service and graveside
Organist	\$150 (\$200 for Sanctuary service)
Pianist	\$150 (individual fees may vary)
Soloist	\$100 (individual fees may vary)
Video	\$250 (to create from pictures)
Song Leader	\$50 (if no soloist, and pastor is not comfortable leading congregational singing) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facility, Coordinator, Sound Tech provided

If DECEASED is related to Asbury member:

Facility fee	\$250 (Chapel) \$500 (Sanctuary)
Pastor	\$200
Coordinator	\$200
Organist	\$150 (\$200 for Sanctuary service)
Sound tech	\$100 (outside core hours)
Pianist	\$150 (individual fees may vary)
Soloist	\$100 (individual fees may vary)
Video	\$250 (to create from pictures)
Song Leader	\$50 (if no soloist, and pastor is not comfortable leading congregational singing)

If DECEASED is non-member (must have some kind of connection with Asbury):

Facility fee	\$500 (Chapel) \$1,000 (Sanctuary)
Pastor	\$200
Coordinator	\$200
Organist	\$150 (\$200 for Sanctuary service)
Sound tech	\$100 (outside core hours)
Pianist	\$150 (individual fees may vary)
Soloist	\$100 (individual fees may vary)
Video	\$250 (to create from pictures)
Song Leader	\$50 (if no soloist, and pastor is not comfortable leading congregational singing)



***So also you have sorrow now,
but I will see you again, and your
hearts will rejoice, and no one will
take your joy from you.***

John 16:22

Sheryl Martin
Bereavement Coordinator

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