

First Congregational UCC Funeral Planning

**Death is not extinguishing the light;
it is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.**

Tagore

For we are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:38-39, adapted

Full Legal Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ **Cell** _____

Date of Birth _____

Spouse/Partner/Contact Person _____

Names and phone numbers of children if applicable _____

Once completed, it can be helpful to make a copy for our files at the church office.

ABOUT THIS FORM

**“Jesus said to them...I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly.”
John 10:10 NRSV**

Making decisions about what is to happen after our death can free us to live fully now. We've developed this form to assist in funeral planning prior to death. It can also assist families who welcome the care of the church after a death.

In addition to the wishes you may express in the following pages, we suggest you:

1. Complete and discuss with loved ones your advanced care directives for medical treatment.
2. Update your will.
3. Consider Ashland UCC and other organizations that do God's work as you are doing your estate planning.
4. Make decisions about organ and tissue donation and document these accordingly.
5. Make your wishes known about the church service you desire upon your death.

a. I authorize _____ to make final decisions with the minister officiating. These requests are my preferences and the person listed above may make changes as needed.

b. Copies of this form have been discussed with: _____

Signature _____

HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVES

I am an organ donor _____

Location of original document – Oregon Advance Directive for Health Care _____

My Directive is on file at Ashland UCC _____

Date Prepared _____ Updated _____

SERVICES AFTER DEATH:

The clergy of Ashland UCC consider it part of their pastoral care to assist the families of members and friends in planning funeral and memorial services. (Community members who wish to rent space for a celebration on their own are welcome to rent space via current facilities rental forms and procedures.)

One of the UCC staff clergy will help plan and lead the memorial or funeral service. If you would like other clergy to assist in the service, please speak to your pastor prior to inviting them.

As clergy, we seek to shape each memorial service or funeral to speak a true word about the person's life in a way that is appropriate and comfortable for their family and friends. No two services are identical, and many interfaith or other accommodations can be made. It can help both clergy and family to know your preferences.

MY PREFERENCES

Person to conduct the service _____

If unavailable _____

MUSIC

The current pianist/music director typically has the first option for accompanying music at funerals and memorials. They will also coordinate with soloists, etc.

Desired hymns/anthems _____

Special music requests _____

READINGS

The attached sheet lists readings and psalms many Christians have found comforting at the time of death. Clergy offering pastoral care may also have ideas from conversations prior to death, but knowing some favorite passages can help.

Old Testament/Hebrew scripture _____

Psalm _____

New Testament _____

Gospel _____

Other texts or poems _____

Preferred readers _____

RECEPTION

A simple reception by family and friends can be held in our social hall.

Suggested Coordinators: _____

I would like photos displayed in our social hall. _____

BURIAL INFORMATION

Note: Arrangements for a funeral should be made in consultation with the Minister.

Mortuary name, phone number, location _____

My plan is on record with them _____ or the Oregon Funeral Consumers Alliance _____

I wish to be cremated _____

I prefer earth burial of my body _____ (note: embalming is not required)

Pall Bearers/Honorary Bearers _____

Note: The coffin is closed for the service and remains closed thereafter.

I have made arrangements with:

_____ Cemetery: Name _____

Location _____ plot # _____

Location of deed _____

_____ I prefer my ashes to be scattered.

Location: _____

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In lieu of flowers I request a memorial donation to:

First Congregational UCC Church _____

Other _____

The Minister of First Congregational UCC, Ashland, Oregon is available to help you make your decisions. Contact us at (541) 482-1981.

Appendix 1

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT/HEBREW SCRIPTURES

- ___ Job 19:21-27a (I know that my redeemer lives)
- ___ Isaiah 25:6-9 (God will swallow up death forever)
- ___ Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort those who mourn)
- ___ Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (God is good to those who wait)
- ___ Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God)
- ___ Ecclesiastes 3:1-14 (A time for everything)
- ___ 2 Esdras 2:42-48 (The faithful are exalted in heaven)
- ___ Wisdom 4:7-9, (10-12, 13-15 (Age is not length of time)

PSALM

- ___ 23
- ___ 42:1-7
- ___ 46
- ___ 90:1-12
- ___ 121
- ___ 130
- ___ 139:1-11
- ___ 25
- ___ 27
- ___ 103

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)
- ___ Romans 6:1-11 (Dead to sin but alive in Christ)

- ___ **2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (Consolation in Christ)**
- ___ **2 Corinthians 4:7-14 (Perplexed but not in despair)**
- ___ **2 Corinthians 4:13 – 5:10 (At home with the Lord)**
- ___ **Philippians 3:8-21 (Our citizenship is in heaven)**
- ___ **Philippians 3:20 - 4:1, 4-7 (Rejoice in the Lord)**
- ___ **1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 (15-18) (Raised with Jesus)**
- ___ **1 Peter 1:3-0 (A living hope)**

GOSPEL

- ___ **John 5:24-27 (They who believe have everlasting life)**
- ___ **John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives will come to me)**
- ___ **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 there are many rooms)**
- ___ **Matthew 11:28-30 (Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden)**
- ___ **Matthew 5:3-10 (the Beatitudes,)**
- ___ **Mark 10:13-16 (Let the little children come to me)**
- ___ **Luke 15:11-32 (The parable of the lost son)**
- ___ **Luke 23:44-49, 24:1-7 (The death and resurrection of Jesus)**
- ___ **John 6:46-58 (Jesus, the bread of life)**
- ___ **John 12:23-26 (Where I am there shall my servant be)**

OTHER SACRED TEXTS

FAVORITE PRAYERS

Appendix 2

KEEPING IT SIMPLE

KEY DOCUMENTS

LOCATION/ACCESS PERSON

**Health Care Directive
(Oregon Health Care Decisions form,
Organ donor, POLST, etc)
Columbarium/cemetery site
Will
Veterans Records/ ID number
Birth/Marriage Certificates
Computer Password
Insurance Policies
Bank Accounts/ Credit Union
Brokerage Accounts
Safety Deposit Box Key
Real Estate Titles
Pension Plan
Auto Registration Papers
Social Security Number
Funeral Planning Form**

*** See My Advance Care Plan (MAP) for another format for recording your important information.**

THINGS TO KNOW

Doctor _____
Clergy _____
Date and place of birth _____
Fraternal Organization _____
Attorney _____
Accountant _____
School Info _____
Clubs _____
Employment Info _____
Volunteer History _____
Church Affiliation _____
Date and place of baptism _____
Parents' names _____