

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH FUNERAL MINISTRY



*"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me,
even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."
(John 11:25-26)*

INTRODUCTION

Of all human events, death concerns us the most deeply. When death approaches, it immediately becomes our principal and overriding concern. Grief is like a wound which requires time and care if it is to heal. Nevertheless, God's love continues through our loss and grieving. The rite of Christian burial aims to strengthen our assurance of this. There is comfort for the mourners, the commendation to God of the person who has died, and the committal of the body for burial or cremation. Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life, and that there is renewed life, in Christ, after death.

Through the Funeral Ministry here at Emmanuel, the whole congregation seeks to support you and your family as you grieve the loss of a loved one.

The Clergy, along with the Altar Guild and Music Director, will work with you and your family members to plan a fitting memorial and/or graveside service according to the Book of Common Prayer. This booklet, along with our Funeral Planning Worksheet, will guide you in making selections of scripture, music, and more.

Your loved one and family will be uplifted in the parish's Sunday prayers and, if desired, an announcement will be sent to the congregation to inform them of the time and date of your loved one's service.

SCHEDULING

Please contact the Clergy in order to select a date that is compatible with the Parish calendar.

PLANNING THE SERVICE

The funeral is a worship service and as such in the direction of the Clergy, with the assistance of the Altar Guild and Music Director. The order of service will be planned using the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. The Eucharist may be a part of any funeral. All worshippers are welcome to receive communion.

FLOWERS

You may use your own florist, or you may call the florist our Altar Guild uses: Conklyn's Florist (703-299-9000). In the case of a Saturday funeral, the altar flowers could be kept on the altar for the Sunday services and designated as given by the family in honor of their loved one.

The altar flowers are sufficient decoration for the church. Flowers may be placed on the two stands, on either side of the altar, and on the shelf at the back of the chancel.

MUSIC

Any music played at the funeral should be appropriate for a worship service. It is understood that the Parish Organist plays at all funerals with any departure from this to be approved by the Clergy. All music to be used must be cleared with the Organist and the officiating priest.

FUNERAL RECEPTION

Our Parish Hall is available for a reception at the church. It can accommodate up to 150 people. We do not have catering facilities; however a list of suggested caterers can be obtained from the church office. Alcohol consumption is permitted according to the following restrictions:

- Champagne, beer or wine only.
- NO hard liquor.
- A non-alcoholic beverage alternative must be provided and served in an equally attractive manner.
- Punches and drinks must be labeled “alcoholic” or “non-alcoholic” and care must be taken to assure that minors are not served alcohol in any form.

FEES FOR FUNERALS AT EMMANUEL

The following fees apply to all funerals (please make checks payable as indicated):

- Organist: **Ryan Fitch** \$200
- Vocal Soloist: **(name will be given)** \$100
- Rehearsal fee, if requested: **Ryan Fitch** \$100
(Minimum of 1 hour at \$100 per hour)
- Altar Guild: **Emmanuel Episcopal Church** \$100
- Parish Hall Rental: **Emmanuel Episcopal Church** \$250
- An honorarium for the Clergy or a contribution to the Rector's Discretionary Fund is both customary and welcome. The suggested amount is \$300. The check should be made payable to **Emmanuel Episcopal Church** with **RDF** in the memo line. Donations made to the Rector's Discretionary Fund are used to help others in need.

Individual checks to the appropriate party are to be submitted to the Clergy at the final counseling session prior to the funeral.

We want to be of help to you in this time of grief. If there are other ways in which we can be of help to you and your family, please let the Clergy know.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS
TO MAKE YOUR FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS:**

For planning:

Rector

The Rev. Charles C. McCoart, Jr. (Chuck)

charlescmccoartjr@gmail.com

Associate for Worship

The Rev. Joan L. Peacock (Joani)

celticjlp@gmail.com

For musical arrangements:

Choir Director/Organist

Ryan Fitch

musicdirector@emmanuelonhigh.org

For flowers:

Altar Guild

office@emmanuelonhigh.org

For questions:

Parish Administrator

Janie Piemonte

administrator@emmanuelonhigh.org

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

1608 Russell Road

Alexandria, VA 22301

(703) 683-0798

www.emmanuelonhigh.org

Grief Resources

Adults

Healing After Loss: Daily Meditations for Working Through Grief

By Martha Whitmore Hickman

Prayer is Good: A Path from Grief to Peace

By Brette Petway

It's OK That You're Not OK

By Megan Devine

A Parent's Guide to Raising Grieving Children

By Phyllis Silverman and Madelyn Kelly

Teens

Modern Loss: Candid Conversations About Grief

By Rebecca Soffer and Gabrielle Birkner

Healing Your Grieving Heart for Teens

By Alan Wolfelt, PhD

Children

The Invisible String

By Patrice Karst

I Miss You

By Pat Thomas

The Memory Box

By Joanna Rowland

*“Almighty God, look with pity upon the sorrows
of your servants for whom we pray.
Remember them, Lord, in mercy;
nourish them with patience;
comfort them with a sense of your goodness;
lift up your countenance upon them and give them peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Amen.*



Photo by Beth Boland