

# GRACE POINT CHURCH FUNERAL INFORMATION



The death of a loved one is a tragic event. The Bible reflects many emotional responses to the reality of death, which may include anger, denial, guilt, lament, resignation, thanksgiving, and trust. A funeral is intended as a way of publicly acknowledging the significance of one's loss. It creates space to mourn a loved one and to remember their life and contribution to this world. It is a significant step in the grieving process.

Grace Point Church and its pastors desire to assist you and your family in this time of grief and to come alongside you in preparing a service that is meaningful for you and your family. Having Grace Point involved in the funeral preparation and planning indicates that Christian community and faith are core values and in this time of grief, our loving Heavenly Father is a source of hope and comfort.

## **NEXT STEPS IN REQUESTING A FUNERAL AT GRACE POINT:**

1. Contact the office administrator ([office@gracepointchurch.ca](mailto:office@gracepointchurch.ca)) to arrange an appointment with a pastor.
2. Keep in mind that coordinating a date and time for the funeral includes the availability of the space, staff required, and coordination with the funeral home (if you are using one). The officiating pastor will confirm availability of facility and staffing before finalizing the date. It would be helpful to provide a few options to the pastor when meeting.
3. Meet with the pastor officiating the funeral service to plan the service. The pastor will provide assistance in planning the service but the family will be responsible for any desired set up (ex. memorial table, guest book, etc.), for any slideshow or videos, and for ushers (if not using a funeral home). Attached is a service planning sheet that you may find helpful to print and make notes on in advance of the meeting.
4. Funerals will be officiated by one of the pastors on staff at Grace Point. If another pastor is requested, approval will be required by the pastoral team.
5. There is a minimal fee for the use of the auditorium or chapel for the wedding ceremony. The majority of the cost is for personnel (ex. a/v technicians, custodial) based on the current rental rate facility grid. Pastors are typically paid an honorarium for services. The suggested honorarium for a funeral service ranges from \$100-\$300.

Grief is a difficult and long process. The Centre for Loss has many helpful resources available including an article entitled "Understanding Your Grief: Ten Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart" by Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt ([www.centerforloss.com](http://www.centerforloss.com)). Another source of support is GriefShare which is support group offered at various churches. If we are not currently offering one, we encourage you to use this link to find one in the area: [www.griefshare.org/findagroup](http://www.griefshare.org/findagroup).