

NEW BEGINNINGS CHURCH

CELEBRATION OF LIFE GUIDE TO PLANNING A LOVING FUNERAL

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalm 147:3



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On Behalf of New Beginnings Church

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On Behalf of New Beginnings Church

Please accept our deepest sympathy on the loss of your loved one. A death of a family member or of a friend is an appropriate time for the expression of loss and grief. We understand that this will be a difficult time for you and your family; know that God understands even more, as Jesus Himself experienced sorrow and grief.

First and foremost, we will pray for you. Should you desire, our staff will come alongside you in the funeral planning process at NBC. Our hope is that you will find this booklet of great assistance to you in planning a service that will honor God and the memory of your loved one.

In Christ,

Pastor Michael L. Henderson, Sr., Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Twanna Henderson, Executive Minister

Immediately After the Death of a Loved One

Immediately after the death of a loved one you may find yourself overwhelmed with the multitude of tasks. Grief makes it difficult to focus on priorities and take action. Here is a simple checklist for survivors to help you prioritize and keep track of what needs to be done immediately following your loved one's passing.

At the time of transition, make the right call.

- If the transition occurs at home, it's important to know whom to call. If your loved one is a Hospice patient, call the Hospice agency to report the passing.
- If your loved one was not a Hospice patient, then you must call Emergency Services, 911, to notify the local police or sheriff of the death.
- A funeral home must be contacted to arrange for pick-up of the deceased. If funeral arrangements have already been made, all you will need to do is confirm the arrangements with the Funeral Director.
- You may want to call on relatives or close friends to assist in making the arrangements because you will have to make a lot of decisions in a short amount of time.
- Contact the deceased's attorney, accountant, and executor of estate (if any).
- Contact the deceased's employer (if any).

After the appropriate calls have been made regarding the passing of your loved one, you will be faced with a number of questions and the task of making arrangements for a funeral or memorial service.

With regard to **New Beginnings Church**, you can contact the church's front office at **704-567-2900** between the hours of **9:00 AM–6:00 PM, Monday through Friday** to speak with the **Office Manager** who will guide you and your family in the steps to plan a service to honor your loved one.



Planning the Funeral Service

Please take the time to go over the next few pages of questions. They will help shape your thoughts about the service. Then, be sure to bring this information with you to your meeting with our funeral liaison.

The Funeral Director will need this information as well.

Funeral Service Information

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Relation to Deceased: _____

Name of Deceased: _____ Age: _____

Was deceased a member of New Beginnings Church? Yes No

Has a funeral home been contacted? Yes No

If yes, name of funeral home: _____

Funeral Director: _____ Phone: _____

Funeral Home Address: _____

Will the deceased be: Buried Cremated

Cemetery Name: _____ Phone: _____

Service: Funeral (casket or urn present) Memorial (no remains present)

Service Location: (Use of the NBC Ministry Center or Community Life Center Chapel are dependent on availability) NBC Ministry Center Funeral Home Community Life Center Chapel Graveside Other

Visitation: 30 minutes before service 1 Hour before service Day before at the funeral home

Estimated Attendance: _____

Are there any other details you wish to convey regarding the service?

Church Availability

When planning the service, a written confirmation of the funeral date and time will be provided by the Office Manager. Before confirming desired arrangements, a review of the Church calendar must be completed by the church office so as to eliminate conflicts. The church will do everything possible to work with the family for the usage of our facility. Services must be scheduled in such a way that it does not interfere with Worship Services on Sunday, scheduled activities on Tuesdays or previously planned churchwide events.

Planning the Funeral Service - Program

As a Christian organization we consider the funeral service as a sacred service. Therefore, it is important for the service to be consistent with the beliefs and standards of New Beginnings Church.

Please take a moment to consider the details (music, scriptures, speakers, etc.) that you would like included in the service for your loved one.

Program Information

Musical Prelude: _____

Scripture Reading: _____

Old Testament: _____ New Testament: _____

Prayer: _____

Musical Selection: _____

Reading of Obituary: _____

Acknowledgement of Cards and Condolences: _____

Remarks: (Limit to 2-3 minutes please)

1) _____ 3) _____

2) _____ 4) _____

Musical Selection: _____

Eulogy: _____

Recessional: _____

Pall Bearers:

1) _____ 4) _____

2) _____ 5) _____

3) _____ 6) _____

Flower Bearers:

1) _____ 3) _____

2) _____ 4) _____

Cost and Honorariums at New Beginnings Church

The New Beginnings Church staff and family consider it a privilege to be asked to facilitate funeral services. Such services require that both NBC staff and the volunteers they enlist to work additional hours within the framework of their regular ministry. The Office Manager will discuss any applicable fees and honorariums with you during your meeting.

Planning the Funeral Service - Personal Information

We desire to provide a service that is personal and honors your loved one's life and memory. Please take a moment to provide some background information that will assist in making the funeral service more personal for your family.

How do you want the officiating clergy to refer to the deceased? _____

What did the deceased do for a living; where did they work; if applicable?

Did he/she have any hobbies? _____

What were some of his/her notable accomplishments?

Did the deceased have any favorite scriptures, sayings, or quotes?

What made your loved one special/unique?

How can we use the deceased's life as an inspiration?

What is one of your fondest memories of the deceased?

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at NBC

Q: I am not a member of NBC and neither was the person who has passed. Will NBC officiate a funeral?

A: *New Beginnings Church is a part of this community and both members and non-members may hold their service at the Matthews location if space and a date is available. In cases of non-members, accommodations are determined based on availability.*

Q: May I choose whomever I feel most comfortable with to conduct the funeral service?

A: *The elements of the service should be consistent with the beliefs and standards of New Beginnings Church. Before scheduling a funeral service which would be performed by a minister not currently on staff at New Beginnings Church, prior approval must be given by church leadership.*

Q: Can the Ministerial Staff come to another church/site to conduct the funeral?

A: *Normally, this is not a problem. Church leadership will exercise discretion in all instances.*

Q: Will the Gospel (salvation message) be shared at the service?

A: Yes.

Q: May we have a post-service luncheon (repast) at the church?

A: *Normally repasts are not automatic and need to be requested. During the pandemic, however, no repast will be provided.*

Q: Are there fees involved with a funeral service at NBC?

A: *There are suggested honorariums to help compensate NBC staff and volunteers for over-and-above time needed to prepare for the service to honor your loved one. Costs will be discussed during your meeting with the Office Manager.*

Q: Can the service be held at the Community Life Center chapel?

A: *The site at which a funeral is held is subject to availability and the anticipated number of attendees. Location accommodations can be discussed during your meeting with the Office Manager.*



Aftercare: Guidance Through Grief Share

When the funeral service is over, and friends and family have departed to go about their normal routines, you more than likely will find that you are experiencing grief. You do not have to experience it alone. Having a supportive network of people to talk to who may be going through a similar situation can be comforting and encouraging.

Individuals, couples, families, and groups may benefit from available resources offered through our counseling center at our New Beginnings Community Life Center (CLC).

Please visit www.nbclifecenter.org or call **980-225-9915** for a current schedule of support groups or for additional counseling services.

New Beginnings Community Life Center
5232 Margaret Wallace Road
Matthews, NC 28105



Contacts

Encourager on Call	980-225-9915, Option 2
Counseling Director	980-225-9915 x407



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With every sunrise, there is a new beginning.