



## PEWEE VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

119 Central Avenue / Pewee Valley, KY 40056 / 502.241.4326

[www.peweevalleypresbyterian.org](http://www.peweevalleypresbyterian.org)

Dear Friends,

In life and in death we belong to God. God cares for us before we are brought into this world, sustains us through all our earthly days, and holds us with everlasting arms when this life is over. For a Christian, death should not be feared. Nonetheless, planning one's funeral is not something most of us relish.

In the Presbyterian Church, funerals and memorial services are services that witness to the resurrection hope we have in Jesus Christ. Therefore, they are not dreary, mournful affairs, but an opportunity to give thanks to God for life and to look ahead to that time when God's reign will be fully realized and we will be with God.

I hope you will take the time necessary to complete the questionnaire contained within this booklet, and if you are comfortable doing so, to discuss your wishes with your family. If I can be of assistance to you, please let me know. When completed, please send me a copy of your wishes and they will be kept in a confidential place in the Church Office.

Know that it is the desire of all your staff and your Session at Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church to be of assistance to you.

Grace and Peace,

Reverend Joel A. Weible, Pastor  
Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

## **I. THEOLOGICAL BEGINNINGS**

*The Directory for Worship* section of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has this to say about *Services on the Occasion of Death*:

***The Resurrection is a central doctrine of the Christian faith and shapes Christians' attitudes and responses to the event of death. Death brings loss, sorrow, and grief to all. In the face of death Christians affirm with tears and joy the hope of the gospel. Christians do not bear bereavement in isolation but are sustained by the power of the Spirit and the community of faith. The church offers a ministry of love and hope to all who grieve.***

## **II. PRACTICAL MATTERS**

Because it is difficult under emotional stress to plan wisely, the Session should encourage members to discuss and plan in advance the arrangements which will be necessary at the time of death, including decisions about the Christian options of burial, cremation, or donation for medical purposes. These plans should provide for arrangements which are simple, which bear witness to resurrection hope, and in which the Christian community is central.

The service on the occasion of death *ordinarily* should be held in the usual place of worship in order to join this service to the community's continuing life and witness to the resurrection. The service shall be under the direction of the pastor.

The service begins with scriptural sentences. It is appropriate for worshipers to sing hymns, psalms, spirituals or spiritual songs which affirm God's power over death, a belief in the resurrection to life everlasting, and the assurance of the communion of the saints. Scripture shall be read; a sermon or other exposition of the Word may be proclaimed; an affirmation of faith may be made by the people. Aspects of the life of the one who has died may be recalled.

Prayers shall be offered, giving thanks to God:

1. for life in Jesus Christ and the promise of the gospel;
2. for the gift of the life of the one who has died;
3. for the comfort of the Holy Spirit;
4. for the community of faith;

and making intercessions:

5. for family members and loved ones who grieve;
6. for those who minister to and support the bereaved;
7. for all who suffer loss;
8. for faith and grace for all who are present, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

The service ends by commending the one who has died to the care of the eternal God and sending the people forth with a benediction.

### **III. THE FORM**

The form (4 pages) which is attached is for your use in planning arrangements in the event of your death. The data on this form will be useful for those who plan the funeral or memorial service or who write an appropriate obituary. Although this is not a legal document, it is recommended that a copy of your completed form be given to a family member or a close friend and, if pre-arrangements have been made, to a funeral home.

By completing as much of the attached form as you are comfortable with, you will, as too many of us have experience, have dealt with some arrangements that are usually only done under immense pressure and by persons who may or may not know all of your wishes. You will thus have the assurance that your wishes are made known and that you have taken the burden of a lot of unnecessary decision making off of the ones you love.

**THIS FOLLOWING IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS FOR PASTORAL PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY. PLEASE COMPLETE AS MUCH AS YOU CARE TO COMPLETE.**

Upon completion, your form will be kept confidential in the church office to be used by the pastor at the appropriate time.

**FUNERAL PLANNING DATA FORM**

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church / Pewee Valley, Kentucky

THIS FOLLOWING IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT AND IS FOR PASTORAL PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number (optional)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Military Number (optional)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Positions Held \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Employee's Benefit Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status:  
\_\_\_ Never Married; \_\_\_ Married (\_\_\_ Years); \_\_\_ Widowed; \_\_\_ Divorced.

Spouse/Partners Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_

Other Family (Name, Date of Birth, Relationship, Occupation):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Schools Attended:	Dates:	Degrees:
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Notable Achievements/Honors/Offices Held:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Data/Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of the following clubs, lodges, fraternal orders, etc.:

<u>Name</u>	Death Benefits available	
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

I am a veteran of \_\_\_\_\_ war.  
Branch of service \_\_\_\_\_

*"I have filled out papers with the V.A. to name a beneficiary for my Veteran's insurance policy."*  
Yes  No .

I am a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Church  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Minister: \_\_\_\_\_

I want the minister to be called if I am dying or critically injured:  Yes  No.

If possible I prefer to die:  at home  in the hospital, because:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have prepared and executed a living will:  Yes  No

The location of the living will is \_\_\_\_\_

I have prepared and executed a legal will.  Yes  No

The location of the will is \_\_\_\_\_

My attorney is \_\_\_\_\_

My executor/trix is \_\_\_\_\_

The following death benefits are available:

Social Security  Pension  (Other: \_\_\_\_\_)

I have a funeral prepayment plan with \_\_\_\_\_ Funeral Home

I wish the following funeral home/society/person to make my arrangements:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Person to contact there: \_\_\_\_\_

I have arrangements for a burial plot at:

\_\_\_\_\_

I want as many body parts donated as possible.

I want my body donated to a medical school.

I want no body parts donated.

I want my eyeglasses sent to:

I want my remains to be:  Cremated;  Buried;  Entombed

I  want  do not want to be embalmed (understanding that if the body is to be held for viewing embalming may be necessary).

I want to be cremated and have a memorial service at the church.

I want to be cremated and have no memorial service.

I want my ashes to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I want a  public  private funeral service.

I want the service to be held at:

\_\_\_\_\_

Church

Funeral Home

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

If possible, I want the following music/hymns (See back page for some appropriate hymns):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following Bible readings are preferred for the service (See back page of suggested scriptures):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other readings: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If available, the clergy person(s) I would like to participate at the service is (are):

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_

I have made arrangements with this person:  Yes  No.

Other persons I would like to have participate are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer to have flowers.

I would prefer to have donations made to \_\_\_\_\_ instead of flowers.

I would like to have both options available for people to choose.

I want the following persons to serve as pall bearers:

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Please notify the following persons in the event of my death:

Name	Address	Telephone	Relationship
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

In the event that these arrangements are impractical at the time of my death, I want the following person(s) to determine the changes:

\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional instructions or comments:

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

### Readings from Scripture:

(From which to choose several from the Old and New Testaments)

___ Psalm 8	___ John 14:1-7,25-27
___ Psalm 16	___ 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14
___ Psalm 18	___ 1 Corinthians 15
___ Psalm 23	___ 2 Corinthians 4:5-18, 5:1-9
___ Psalm 46	___ Revelation 21:1-5a; 22:1-5
___ Psalm 90	___ Romans 8:14-23
___ Psalm 121	___ John 3:16-17
___ Psalm 139:1-12	___ John 11:17-27
___ Isaiah 40:1-11	___ _____
___ Isaiah 40:28-31	___ _____
___ Isaiah 65:17-25	___ _____

### Congregational Hymns:

(Numbers are from the Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs)

___ No. 555	Now Thank We All Our God
___ No. 138	Holy, Holy, Holy
___ No. 464	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
___ No. 478	Praise My Soul, The King of Heaven
___ No. 260	A Mighty Fortress is Our God
___ No. 170-175	The Lord's My Shepherd (Psalm 23)
___ No. 275	God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years
___ No. 210	Our God, Our Help in Ages Past
___ No. 278	Our God, to Whom We Turn
___ No. 457	I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art
___ No. 119	The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done
___ No. 123	Jesus Christ is Risen Today
___ No. 151	Crown Him with Many Crowns
___ No. 139	Come, Thou Almighty King
___ No. 281	Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
___ No. 282	If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee
___ No. 179	God is My Strong Salvation
___ No. 286	Give to the Winds Thy Fears
___ No. 361	How Firm a Foundation
___ No. 234	I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes
___ No. 191	God is Our Refuge and Our Strength
___ No. 376	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
___ No. 384	O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go
___ No. 526	For All the Saints
___ No. 416-417	Christ is Made the Sure Foundation
___ No. 280	Amazing Grace
___ No. 467	How Great Thou Art