

**CHECKLIST FOR PLANNING YOUR CHRISTIAN FUNERAL**  
**St. John United Methodist Church**  
**Augusta, Georgia**

*The purpose of this document is to provide you with an opportunity to express your wishes for your funeral. Planning for this service can best be done now, relieving your family of some difficult decision-making during the time of grief and stress which follows a death.*

*The St. John staff encourages you to use this document as you wish. If some of the questions are bothersome to you, skip them and answer others. For help, see the UM Hymnal, page 870, "A Service of Death and Resurrection."*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Full contact information of person assuming responsibility of funeral arrangements:  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of service:  
Funeral: \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Graveside Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Service:  
St. John: \_\_\_\_\_ Funeral Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Coffin before service: closed: \_\_\_\_\_ open: \_\_\_\_\_

If there is a coffin, please cover it with:  
The American flag: \_\_\_\_\_ Flowers: \_\_\_\_\_ Nothing: \_\_\_\_\_

*The St. John pastor is the first person contacted as service plans are made. For members of St. John, our pastor is understood as the principal worship leader. This pastor's skill and counseling will be invaluable as plans are made. List here the names of other clergy, if you wish to have them included. Pastoral courtesy suggests that our pastor invite others to participate.*

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

*Music plays a vital role in Christian worship. St. John's director of music will help you plan music for this important service, and she will play the organ for the funerals of St. John members without an honorarium. For hymn suggestions, see the UM Hymnal, "funerals". Your favorites are also appropriate. If you wish to use musicians from outside of St. John, our Director of Music will be happy to invite them to participate.*

Organist: \_\_\_\_\_ Vocal Soloist: \_\_\_\_\_

Choir: \_\_\_\_\_ Quartet: \_\_\_\_\_

Other instrumentalists:

Pianist: \_\_\_\_\_ violinist: \_\_\_\_\_ harpist: \_\_\_\_\_

Trumpeter: \_\_\_\_\_ flutist: \_\_\_\_\_ other: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregational hymns: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Hymns or anthems offered by soloist or choir: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Hymns offered by organist or other instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other requests for music: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Pallbearers: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to have acolytes, if available? \_\_\_\_\_

Other participants (family or friends for reading of scripture or for eulogy/naming):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Scripture:

Old Testament: \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Epistle: \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel: \_\_\_\_\_

Holy Communion (optional):        yes \_\_\_\_\_        no \_\_\_\_\_

Fraternal, Military, Civic rites: yes \_\_\_\_\_        no \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Committal service at graveside: yes \_\_\_\_\_        no \_\_\_\_\_

Musicians at graveside? yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_

Memorials: \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers:    yes:\_\_\_\_\_        no:\_\_\_\_\_

Honors or achievements in your life that you would like mentioned: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A bulletin (printed order for worship) can be prepared by the St. John staff if time allows, but it may be impossible to produce this document when the calendar dictates obstacles. If possible, do you wish to have a printed bulletin for your service: yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_

Will a nursery for children be needed? yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_

Will your family want an audio CD of the service? yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SCRIPTURE FOR FUNERALS - Recommended the UM Book of Worship

Genesis 15:15	Abraham's death
Genesis 49:1, 29–33; 50:1–2, 12–14	Jacob's death and Joseph's response
Exodus 15 (UMH 135)	Canticle of Moses and Miriam
Joshua 3:14 –4:7	Crossing over Jordan
Job 1:21	Job's faith
Job 14:1 –12a	We are of few days.
Job 19:25 –27	My Redeemer lives.
Proverbs 31:10 –13, 19–20, 30–31	A good woman
Isaiah 25:1, 6–9	God will swallow up death.
Isaiah 26:1 –4, 19	Your dead shall live.
Isaiah 35:1 –6, 10	Zion restored
Isaiah 41:8 –10, 13	Do not fear.
Isaiah 57:14 –19	Poem of consolation
Isaiah 61:1 –4, 10–11	The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.
Isaiah 66:10 –13	As a mother comforts, so does God.
Ezekiel 34:11 –16	Shepherd of Israel
Ezekiel 37:1 –14, 21–28	These bones can live.
Micah 6:6 –8	What does the Lord require?
Zephaniah 3:16 –20	Restoration of Israel
Psalms 27 (UMH 758)	Devotion and deliverance
Psalms 34 (UMH 769)	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Psalms 40 (UMH 774)	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Psalms 71 (UMH 794)	Deliverance from evil
Psalms 77 (UMH 798)	Deliverance from trouble
Psalms 84 (UMH 804)	How lovely is your dwelling place.
Psalms 118 (UMH 839)	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Psalms 126 (UMH 847)	Prayer for deliverance
Psalms 126 (UMH 847)	Prayer for deliverance
Psalms 143 (UMH 856)	Prayer for deliverance
Acts 10:34 –43	Peter's sermon on Jesus' resurrection
Romans 5:1 –11, 17–21	Peace with God through faith
Romans 6:3 –11	Dying and rising with Christ
Romans 14:7 –9	Christ, Lord of the dead and the living
2 Corinthians 5:1 –11a, 14–20	Away from the body, at home in the Lord
Ephesians 3:14 –21	Bow before God; know the love of Christ.
Philippians 3:7 –21	The power of Christ's resurrection
Colossians 3:1 –17	Raised with Christ
1 Thessalonians 4:13 –5:11	Concerning those who sleep
2 Timothy 4:6 –8, 17–18	I have fought the good fight.
Hebrews 11–12	The saints of God
1 John 3:1 –3	We shall be like God.
Revelation 14:1 –3, 6–7, 12–13	Blessed are the dead in the Lord.
Matthew 5:1 –12	The Beatitudes
Matthew 6:19 –21	Do not lay up treasures on earth.
Matthew 11:25 –30	Come to me all who labor.

Matthew 25:31 –46  
 Matthew 28:1 –10, 16–20  
 Mark 16:1 –8  
 Luke 1:67 –75 (UMH 208)  
 Luke 12:22 –40  
 Luke 24:1 –12  
 John 3:13 –17  
 John 5:19 –29  
 John 6:30 –40, 47–51  
 John 10:1 –18, 27–30  
 John 12:20 –36  
 John 15:1 –17  
 John 16:12 –22, 33  
 John 20

As you did it to one of the least  
 Jesus' resurrection: Go make disciples.  
 The open tomb: Jesus goes before you.  
 Canticle of Zechariah  
 Do not be anxious; be ready.  
 The empty tomb  
 God's gift of eternal life  
 Whoever hears and believes has life.  
 Jesus the bread of life  
 Jesus the Good Shepherd  
 Unless a grain of wheat dies  
 The vine and the branches  
 Sorrow becomes joy.  
 Jesus' resurrection

### **HYMNS - recommended by the UM Book of Worship**

*See hymns 700–707 Death and Eternal Life and 708–712 Communion of the Saints. Also see suggestions under Eternal Life and Funerals and Memorial Services in UMH and the following:*

163 Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know	143 On Eagle's Wings
557 Blest Be the Tie That Binds	733 Marching to Zion
141 Children of the Heavenly Father	368 My Hope Is Built
318 Christ Is Alive	356 Pues Si Vivimos (When We Are Living)
407 Close to Thee	66 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (stanzas 3, 4)
709 Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above	491 Remember Me
510 Come, Ye Disconsolate	523 Saranam, Saranam (Refuge)
315 Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain	666 Shalom to You
710 Faith of Our Fathers	512 Stand By Me
129 Give to the Winds Thy Fears	704 Steal Away to Jesus
654 How Blest Are They (for an older adult)	496 Sweet Hour of Prayer
77 How Great Thou Art	703 Swing Low, Sweet Chariot
103 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise	395 Take Time to Be Holy
314 In the Garden	545 The Church's One Foundation (stanzas 1, 5)
488 Jesus, Remember Me	546 The Church's One Foundation (stanzas 1, 5)
133 Leaning on the Everlasting Arms	303 The Day of Resurrection
59 Mil Voces Para Celebrar	116 The God of Abraham Praise
520 Nobody Knows the Trouble I See	504 The Old Rugged Cross
57 O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing	308 Thine Be the Glory
480 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go	383 This Is a Day of New Beginnings
247 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (stanza 3)	153 Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose
518 O Thou, in Whose Presence	322 Up from the Grave He Arose
184 Of the Father's Love Begotten	526 What a Friend We Have in Jesus