

What Will It All Cost?

Finances should never be an obstacle when celebrating the life of a loved one. Most often, your funeral home will have established fees that can be discussed with them. If Bethany hosts the service we ask the following:

Sound Engineer \$50

Musician \$125

Pastor honorarium \$175

Luncheon:

A donation is requested which will fund future receptions.

Past donations generally range between \$200 and \$300 or more.

Please share your concerns with us. Our goal is to help you through this transition in your life.

What Steps Do I Take for Bethany to Provide a Funeral Service?

- First** Contact Bethany to share your story, your need, and contact information. (If possible, call before making arrangements with a funeral home)
- Second** The Bethany office will determine a date that works best for your needs in order to host your service.
- Third** A Deacon will contact you if you would like a complimentary luncheon. (Please see other page regarding luncheon)
- Fourth** Our pastor will contact you to assist in making arrangements
- Fifth** Have faith that God is providing for you in your time of need and that you are in our prayers!



Bethany Church

5403 N. Second Street
Loves Park, IL 61111
(815) 877-8001

Office Hours: M-F 8a-12p
www.bethpc.org

A Witness to the Resurrection

Bethany Church Funeral Policy



And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. - *Revelations 21:4*

WHY IS A FUNERAL CALLED A “WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION”?

The apostle Paul wrote, “If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.” (Romans 14:8) In other words, we believe that in life and death we belong to God.

It is in Christ that we find true life and our salvation. Jesus said, “I came that they might have life and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10) With Jesus Christ as your Lord and personal Savior, you can experience the full, abundant life God has planned for you.

We believe that we have become estranged from God, our Heavenly Father. Not through anything God has done, but because we have wandered away from our relationship with him through our lifestyle and choices. But Jesus provided a way for us to be reunited with our Creator. Jesus declares that it is through him that we receive our salvation; “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6) Jesus can provide salvation because he and God are one. (John 10:30)

Jesus died on the cross for all the sins of humanity. He allowed himself to be separated by God in death and, in a sense, traded places with us. He gave us his eternal life and took our death. Yet, three days after his crucifixion, Jesus was raised from the dead! He offered his life as a sacrifice for ours and death could not hold onto it. As a result we receive his life.

Our eternal life is a free gift from God through Jesus Christ. Jesus’ death and resurrection is a testament to God’s love for us and his power over death.

When we face a dark season of separation from a loved one because of a death, we find hope in the resurrection of Christ because we believe all who accept the free gift of Christ will live in eternity in the presence of God and that our earthly death is merely a temporary separation until we are reunited in the presence of God and his angels.

We mourn the passing of our loved ones. Yet, we want to focus on celebrating a life lived and look forward with anticipation of being reunited with those we love because of the sacrifice God made through Jesus. In life and death we belong to God. Just as our life is a testament to God’s creation, our death serves as a witness to the death of Jesus, his resurrection, and the resurrection we have in him.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?"

- *Jesus to Mary, whose brother Lazarus had died, shortly before Jesus raised him from the dead, (John 11:25-26)*

Luncheon Provided by Deacons

The Bethany Deacons offer our full condolences and efforts to help you and your loved ones through this time of transition.

Our goal is to provide you with a place to gather together in a friendly environment where you can be surrounded with loved ones as we cater to your needs.

Below is a list of the food we will provide at no charge for you and your loved ones.

Donations are appreciated as they will fund future events as yours. Checks may be payable to “Bethany Deacons.”

What is Provided?

The following list of foods is offered:

- Cold sandwiches
- Salad
- Relish tray (carrots, celery, pickles)
- Chips
- Dessert
- Coffee
- Punch

Any changes to the above menu provided by the family will gladly be served by the Deacons.