

PARKMINSTER FUNERAL POLICY

In Times of Bereavement

Parkminster United Church is here to support you and work with you in honouring your loved one and in celebrating the love of God. This page provides some practical information to assist you.



Parkminster United Church celebrates the lives of members, adherents or people otherwise connected to this congregation, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, ability, family status or economic status. Parkminster strives to be sensitive to other faith traditions when friends and family members are from outside the church. We are a Christian congregation, and this will be reflected in the services offered.

The Worship Service

Arrangements for a funeral or memorial service can be made by contacting the ministers at Parkminster United Church. A service of worship, either a funeral or memorial service may be held in the Sanctuary (capacity 250) or in the Family Room (capacity of 30). One of the ministers will develop the service with you. It is preferable that funerals or memorial services be held in the afternoons, Monday to Saturday. According to the guidelines of the United Church of Canada it is Parkminster's policy that funerals and memorial services are to be conducted by the Parkminster United Church ministerial staff and that the inclusion of other religious personnel requires discussion with the presiding minister and approval by the Church Council Executive.

The Parkminster Music Director (or designate if the Music Director is not available) will work with you to choose and provide the music at a funeral or memorial service. Soloists and other musicians can be discussed with and/or arranged by the Music Director. (See page 2 cost information)

In support of the family, Parkminster United Church will ensure that ushers are available for the service, that a funeral bulletin is prepared and printed and that arrangements are made for a reception at the church if the family so wishes.

Memorial Receptions

Memorial Receptions are held following the worship service either in the Fellowship Hall or the Family Room. The capacity of the Family Room is 30 and the Hall can accommodate up to 300. The UCW Funeral Reception Coordinator will discuss luncheon wishes with the family but arrangements can include: coffee, tea, juice, and a buffet of sandwiches, fruit and veggie trays, cheese and crackers and dessert squares. All food provided will be nut free. Any rentals will be paid for by the family. Volunteers will provide setup and cleanup as well as serve the coffee, tea and juice. (See Page 2 for cost information.)

The Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden at Parkminster United Church, located on the north side of the church building, is a peaceful area surrounded by flowers and trees for the scattering of cremated remains. It is available to members and adherents of Parkminster. The name, dates of birth and death of subscribers will be engraved on the granite plaque. The plaque will be updated usually on a bi-annual basis. The fee of \$900 includes engraving

the memorial plaque, new plantings when necessary and the upkeep of the garden. Please note that urns or containers will not be interred; however, a decorative urn will be available for use during the burial service.

Memorial Gifts

Memorial gifts from family and friends in memory of the deceased may be directed to Parkminster United Church or to the Parkminster Memorial Endowment Fund. This Fund is managed by the Board of Trustees and the proceeds of the Fund are used to support special projects and needs for both the church building and the Church's ongoing ministry. Income tax receipts will be issued in February to all persons making a donation in excess of \$10.

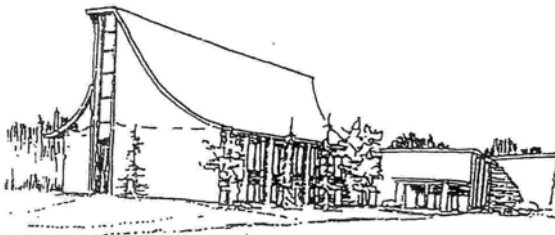
Funeral Costs

Helping you in this stressful time is the primary concern of the congregation, but there are financial aspects that need to be considered also. For funerals held at Parkminster United Church the cost for the organist/pianist is \$150 and should be paid directly to the organist after the funeral. If the resident Music Director is unavailable to play the organ/piano for the funeral, then Parkminster will assist you in finding a suitable organist/pianist who will in turn be paid the organist fee.

If you would like the UCW to provide food and refreshments after the funeral, you will be contacted by the UCW Funeral Reception Coordinator to discuss the details. A suggested amount of \$4.00 per person would be appreciated and can be paid with a cheque made out to 'Parkminster UCW'.

Helping you with your grief

The ministers and/or lay visitors are available to you at any time. Please either call the church office at (519) 885-0935 and leave a message for one of our Ministerial Staff on their voicemail or if you need to speak to someone right away you can have them paged by calling (519) 244-3025 and leaving your telephone number. The Minister on call will respond to your call promptly.



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