

Unfortunately everyone sooner or later will find themselves dealing with the grief that comes from the passing of a loved one. The Vineyard Church offers the following information to assist those who may need our help and counsel through such a difficult time.

Vineyard Church North Phoenix offers compassion and support to bereaved families by:

- Assisting in the planning of a funeral or memorial service at VCNP
- Providing a VCNP pastor or lay leader to officiate at a funeral or memorial service here or at another location

During your time of grief, our pastors and staff will come alongside you to offer guidance, comfort and encouragement. It is our desire that funerals and memorial services at Vineyard Church North Phoenix bring glory to God, while also honoring your loved one.

The heart of this ministry is to make this difficult time less burdensome by comforting you emotionally, encouraging you spiritually, and helping you with the practical details of arranging a funeral/memorial service for your loved one.

What other things do you recommend families consider when planning their service at VCNP?

You may consider bringing:

- a guest book
- funeral announcements
- directions to the place of interment or post-service reception

We have a few things on hand that are available for your use:

- a hostess for the aid and direction of the family and their guests
- seat reservation signs
- directional marquee signage
- draped tables (1 for the guest book and 1 for picture/momento/flower display purposes)
- easels (2 standing, 2 table-top)
- a decorative pen for the guest book
- boxes of tissue

What additional support is offered beyond the service itself?

Each family will be followed up with by our Griefshare Coordinator, who will provide them information about upcoming Griefshare sessions. Griefshare is a place where family members and friends can find healing, comfort and support during the grieving process.

For additional counsel, please feel free to set up an appointment. Contact the church office to begin this process at 623.934.4000.

If you have further questions regarding funerals at VCNP, please contact:
Pastor Jim Sumney @623.934.4000 / jsumney@vineyardnorthphoenix.com



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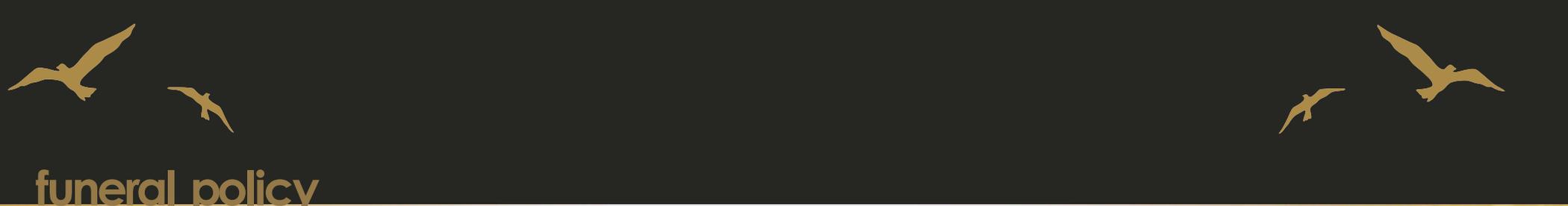


having a funeral at vineyard north phoenix



Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4



funeral policy

- Funerals held at VCNP are conducted without charge, within the guidelines provided in this brochure.
- We will do our best to work with you to find a time that is convenient for both your needs and the church's schedule. All times and locations need to be cleared by the officiating pastor or lay leader.
- We do not have **facilities** for post-service receptions.
- We do not provide **childcare** for funeral services.
- We are not able to provide **musicians** or **worship leaders** for funeral services.
- We do not have resources to assist in **processionals** to the cemetery. This is generally provided by the funeral home handling the service arrangements.
- Services by **fraternal orders, lodges, or other organizations** are not appropriate at Vineyard Church North Phoenix. If they are held, they should be limited to the funeral home or graveside, and should be coordinated with the officiating pastor prior to the service.

faq's

Someone close to me has died: How can I go about planning a service through VCNP? Please **contact the church office** at **623.934.4000**. You will be directed to a pastor or lay leader who will pray with you, assess your needs and answer any questions you have about planning your funeral through VCNP. They will also connect you with the pastor or lay leader who will officiate at your loved one's service. They will work with you to make sure the service is meaningful and healing.

Can we request a specific pastor for our service? Certainly the family **may request** a certain pastor to officiate the service. Our pastors are available to serve in whatever way they can, however, there are times when a particular pastor is not available. In those situations another pastor or lay leader will contact the family to make arrangements.

Can a pastor be arranged to officiate at a service at a location other than at the church? Yes, however, this will be at the discretion of the pastor or lay leader. Chances are that this request can be accommodated.

What facilities are available for use? There are a few options to consider, including areas for smaller gatherings, such as the Prayer or Meeting Room, to larger services in either the Middle School or Youth Auditoriums. The pastor or lay leader officiating your service can help you decide which area will work best for your needs.

Would we be allowed to display pictures and other mementoes of our loved one at our service? Yes. A draped table may be requested to display pictures or other articles commemorating your loved one's life and legacy.

Can we request favorite songs, readings or Scriptures to be included in our service? **Yes.** You are free to make requests of the officiating pastor or lay leader, who will do his/her best to accommodate your wishes. Please, trust their objective decision.

Can we request special music for our service? We do not provide a worship leader, singers or musicians for services, though we are likely able to accommodate outside accompaniment. Pre-recorded, **CD music** may be played before, during or after the service. Please discuss any music arrangements with the person who will officiate at your service.

Can we create a slide presentation to be included in our service? While we are not able to produce media presentations, we are able to run media presentations for funeral services. Slide presentations must be in **Quicktime format**, submitted 24 hours in advance.

What if we need a Audio/Visual technician? A audio/visual technician may be needed for sound amplification, special music and/or slide presentations for funerals held in the Middle School or Youth Auditoriums. One **will be arranged** for your service as needed.

Can an audiorecording be made of the service? We are **not able** to make recordings of services at this time.

If we wish to give a gift to the pastor or lay leader performing the service, how do we go about this? It is our preference that any money given for services rendered be given directly to the individual and not to the church.