

## **Spirit of Hope UMC Death and Funeral Policies and Procedures**

At Spirit of Hope UMC, we want to make sure that you and your family have great pastoral care. We do this as a team. One of the areas in which you may require pastoral care is when death occurs. Here is the step by step procedure for our team to help you at Spirit of Hope:

Make us aware INTENTIONALLY in the event of a death in the family. Do not randomly post on Social Media and hope someone sees it. You can make us aware by:

Calling the Spirit of Hope office at 763-545-0239. Realize that if a death occurs at night we do not have night staff sitting beside the telephone.

Emailing us: at [office@spiritofhopeumc.org](mailto:office@spiritofhopeumc.org)

Facebook: Sending a message to our Spirit of Hope Facebook account.

Emailing us and sending a message to our Facebook account are the fastest ways.

**Please make sure to give us explicit permission, either verbal or written, to share the news.**

SECONDLY, you will have a pastoral staff member call you to pray with you and see what needs you may have. Some people have family churches or family pastors they would rather walk them through the other parts of the next steps such as funeral, wake, etc.

THIRDLY, we will ask you if you would like a pastoral staff member to come by for a visit. If you would like that then we will send them by to pray with you and the family.

FOURTH, if you would like for Spirit of Hope to assist or host the funeral, we will be happy to have our pastoral staff help plan the funeral. If you would like to have the service at the church but you have other musicians of clergy preside over the funeral, we will need to know this as well. We want to make sure we do everything we can to assist you during this difficult time.