

# **Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church Basye, Virginia**

## **Policy for Use for Funeral Services Church Members**

The loss of a loved one is always a difficult time and at Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, we do everything possible to assist the family with planning an appropriate celebration of life in our sanctuary. The following guidelines are offered to help families know what to expect when considering funeral arrangements at Prince of Peace.

1. Families wishing to hold a funeral or memorial service should contact the Pastor of Prince of Peace directly through the church office as soon as possible when a service may be desired. The Pastor and family will agree to the date and time for the proposed service.
2. The service program must be developed in consultation with and fully approved by the Pastor and will generally follow the order of worship for memorial services set forth by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Families are encouraged to meet with the Pastor as soon as possible to ensure alignment on the order of worship and any printed materials to be provided.
3. Participation by a visiting pastor or any other worship leader must be pre-approved in the initial consultation with the Prince of Peace pastor.
4. No public announcement or arrangements with funeral homes or other professional services should be made prior to agreement on the service day, time, and format with the Pastor.
5. There is no cost to church members associated with holding a funeral or memorial service at Prince of Peace. However, it is customary to offer a \$150 gratuity for the organist or any musical accompaniment.
6. The Pastor will identify a member of the Church Council to assist with arrangements for flowers and recommendations for catering, should the family wish to have a reception following the service.