

A Guide to Funerals and
Memorial Services



Skidaway Island United Methodist Church
Savannah, Georgia

May 2017

A Message from the Senior Minister

Dear Friends,

Skidaway Island United Methodist Church developed this manual to assist you at a time when many people feel overwhelmed by the emotions and responsibilities that accompany the passing of a loved one. We hope that it helps you know what is to be done when someone in your family passes away and also to understand what a Christian funeral or memorial service is. In addition, we want to guide you in learning how you may plan your own service now by completing an Omega file once you have studied this guide.

While we all experience grief when a loved one departs this life, we know that death allows us to affirm God's gift of our relationship with the deceased and to testify to God's magnificent gift of salvation and eternal life through Jesus Christ. The United Methodist Service of Death and Resurrection comforts those in grief, provides a witness of our faith in Christ, and entrusts our loved ones to God's care. While we have prepared this manual with our church members in mind, we often conduct funerals for nonmembers and will continue to do so as we receive requests.

The ministerial staff of our church offers our assistance to you and your family in understanding our funeral practices and policies as well as in planning Services of Death and Resurrection. If you have questions regarding any of the information herein or about our ministry to those in grief, please call us at (912) 598-8460.

Sincerely,

Jim Giddens
Senior Minister

*In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.*

-- A Statement of the United Church of Canada (United Methodist Hymnal, #883)

Table of Contents

Introduction	4
Objectives of This Manual	
Terms Used in This Manual	
1 Recording One's Wishes	5
How to Express Your Wishes	
Importance of the Omega File	
Disposition of Remains	
Other Important Information	
Estate Planning	
2 When A Loved One Dies	6
Whom to Call	
Church Office	
Funeral Home	
Local Establishments	
Notifying Family and Friends	
Setting a Date and Time for the Service of Death and Resurrection	
Venue	
Type of Service	
Planning the Elements of the Service	
3 The Christian Funeral	8
Confronting Death	
Worship and Witness	
Planning the Service	
Communion	
Eulogies	
Music	
Other Liturgical Details	
Non-Liturgical Elements	
Worship Bulletin	
Ushers	
Order of Service	
Participants' Arrival	
4 Following the Service	11
Reception in Bailey Hall	
Items on Display at Reception	
Burial or Inurnment	
No Charges to the Family	
5 The Communion of Saints	12
The Fellowship of All Believers	
Preserving the Memory of Those Who Have Gone Before Us	
App. A The Omega File	13
App. B Important Documentation for Your Loved Ones	16
App. C Saum Memorial Garden Policies and Procedures	17
App. D Suggested Scripture Readings	19
App. E Suggested Hymns	21
App. F Guidelines for Flowers	23
App. G The United Methodist Service of Death and Resurrection	24

Introduction

This manual has several objectives. Your church staff would like you to know that they love you and will stand by you in times of sorrow. They also want you to understand the special nature and meaning of Christian funerals and memorial services. They hope that you will express your preferences about your own service by preparing an Omega File. And they want you to know that you may ask them about any of the material in this guide.

There are various phrases used to describe a funeral or memorial service. *The United Methodist Book of Worship* calls this “A Service of Death and Resurrection.” You might think of these pages as a summary of what United Methodists believe about the end of earthly life, death and resurrection, and the blend of worship and witness in each final service.

This booklet is not a handbook on grief or the process of grieving. Our ministers are qualified to assist you with those topics and to recommend books and other materials that they and others who grieve have found useful. They also know about various grief support groups and can recommend one to you.

Throughout this manual, the terms “funeral” and “memorial service” are used in this way: a funeral is a Service of Death and Resurrection where the body of the deceased is present. In a memorial service, the body is not present. At times, for brevity, this manual uses the word “funeral” where it is clear that both types of services are discussed.

*God is our Refuge and our Strength,
Our ever present Aid,
And, therefore, though the earth remove,
We will not be afraid.*
--Psalm 46:1-2 (from the *Scottish Psalter*)

1 Recording One's Wishes

How to Express Your Wishes For a long time, Skidaway Island United Methodist Church has encouraged all members to record their preferences for their Service of Death and Resurrection by completing what we call an "Omega File" to be maintained in the church office. In this file (see Appendix A of this manual) one may list scripture passages, hymns and other musical selections, and other preferences for the service. You may update the file from time to time if important changes are needed. We advise you to avoid "over-planning," since families sometimes need a degree of flexibility, depending on circumstances at the time of death. Section 3 of this book will guide you in appropriate choices of music, scriptures, and speakers.

Importance of the Omega File If you have not already done so, we encourage you to complete an Omega File now. The file is the best way to ensure that your final wishes will be known to family members and church staff as we plan your service. Without it, your loved ones may always wonder whether they made the decisions you would have wanted. In our experience, it is a great comfort for surviving family members and friends, as well as the church staff, to know that the deceased person's wishes have been fulfilled. This is one of many reasons why we encourage you to complete your Omega File. Another reason is that the Omega File, unlike the last will and testament, is immediately available to your survivors.

Other Important Documentation At the time you prepare your Omega File, it would be a special kindness to your loved ones to prepare another document for them, outlining the existence of other important legal, business, and personal documentation and where it may be found. A sample list of such documents appears in Appendix B.

Disposition of Remains While you are preparing your Omega File you may also wish to decide on the final disposition of your remains if you have not already done so. Be certain that your family knows your preference in this regard and where they may find documents related to ownership of a cemetery plot or a columbarium niche. Our church has available niches in our Saum Memorial Garden as described in Appendix C of this manual, and you may inquire about those by calling the church office.

Estate Planning In planning the disposition of our earthly possessions, it is important that we provide for future generations to continue to advance God's kingdom through the ministries and nurture of Skidaway Island United Methodist Church. Not only may we and our families designate how friends and loved ones may direct memorial gifts at the time of our death, but we may also make a bequest to the ministries of the church in our last will and testament. The church staff and members of the finance committee are available to assist with this kind of planning if needed.

*In him we have redemption through his blood,
The forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace
That he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.*
--Ephesians 1:7-8

2 When a Loved One Dies

Whom to Call If your loved one dies in a hospital, care facility, or hospice, the professionals there will notify you if you are not already present. When a loved one dies at home, call First Response at (912) 355-6688 if he or she is on Skidaway Island or 911 if elsewhere. In either case, the professional responders will know what should be done. If you think a loved one may have died, but you are not sure, it is important to call the professional responders at one of the numbers listed above and say, “I think my _____ may have died, but I am not sure.”

Church Office We ask you also to call the church office at (912) 598-8460 when the death of a loved one takes place. The staff is available to comfort you and accompany you in your time of grief. Planning of certain aspects of the Service of Death and Resurrection, such as reserving the venue, begins at once. Here are some decisions that you will want to consider in the hours and days following the loved one’s death.

Funeral Home When someone is pronounced dead, one of the immediate decisions for survivors is the choice of a funeral home. (Ideally, that choice will have been made long in advance and will be reflected in documents such as the Omega File that the deceased has made available to family members.) The funeral home will transport the body of the deceased to their premises and later meet with representatives of the family to schedule the visitation (if one is desired) and funeral service (in consultation with the church) and also to make choices about a casket or urn as well as clothing. They will set up a registry for friends and family who attend the visitation and the funeral service to sign. (When no funeral home is involved, the church provides a registry at the service.) They will apply for the death certificate and ensure that several originals are delivered to the family. They will ask the family for a list of pallbearers and honorary pallbearers (if desired), and the church will reserve seating for these groups, the family, and other groups specified by the family such as clubs, service organizations, and co-workers. If the service is held at our church, we will print a worship bulletin for attendees so there is no need for the leaflet that the funeral home will offer to print.

The representatives of the family should make available to the funeral home a legal document showing ownership of a burial site or niche if final disposition of remains involves burial or inurnment. The funeral home will also place the deceased’s obituary notice in newspapers designated by the family, to be paid by you, usually through the funeral home. Be sure to check with the church staff before announcing or publishing a time and date for the Service of Death and Resurrection (see following information). If the deceased has not left instructions about the designation of memorial gifts, the family should make that decision and include the information in the obituary.

Local Establishments While the church does not endorse a specific funeral director, the following are familiar with our church and have served the needs of the majority of our families:

Fairhaven Funeral Home and Crematory	(912) 964-2862
Fox & Weeks Funeral Directors	(912) 352-7200
Gamble Funeral Service Inc.	(912) 354-1616

Notifying Family and Friends You will want to notify immediate family and close friends as soon as you can. Church volunteers can assist with any calls that you are not prepared to make at this stage of your grief. The church notifies our congregation by email only after family and friends

are notified. Some social media programs such as Facebook allow the user to designate a “legacy user” who can announce the death on the deceased’s account.

Setting a Date and Time for the Service of Death and Resurrection In our church, services are most commonly held at 11:00 AM on weekdays and Saturdays. We try to avoid Wednesdays during those times of the year when Bailey Hall will already be set up for Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners. Other dates when our facilities are not available are Sundays, Saturdays preceding Communion Sundays, or during the following: the week of Christmas, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day, Holy Week and Easter, Memorial Day weekend, July 4th weekend, Labor Day weekend, and Thanksgiving weekend. In setting the date, consider who may attend from distant locations and how long it may take them to travel.

Venue Both our Sanctuary and our Chapel are available for services. The Chapel is the more intimate setting of the two, seating 100, while the Sanctuary seats 500 comfortably. Most services for our members are held in these two locations, but some families have preferred a service at the funeral home or at the graveside. We encourage you to have the service at the church because that is the location most closely associated with the worship of God. In deciding between our Chapel and Sanctuary, consider the likely attendance, and take into account how recently the deceased has been active in the church and community. Another available venue is our Memorial Garden if a smaller space is preferred. Our ministers can help you with this decision.

Type of Service Consider whether this will be a funeral (the body of the deceased is present) or a memorial service (interment or inurnment has already taken place). Within our congregation, there are many people who have located here following retirement and who have planned to be buried in other locales. In such cases, there is often a service in our church, with another service elsewhere at a later date. In other cases, the service elsewhere, along with burial or inurnment, may come first. The staff can assist you with the planning of these details.

Planning the Elements of the Service If the deceased has completed an Omega File, many of these details will be specified there. Usually the next-of-kin or the individual designated by the family to speak on their behalf meets with the Senior Minister and the Director of Music and Worship to plan the details. A complete discussion of the service is found in the next chapter.

*God so loved the world that he gave his only Begotten Son,
That whosoever believes in him may have eternal life.*
--John 3:16

3 The Christian Funeral

Confronting Death There are various phrases used to describe a funeral or memorial service. *The United Methodist Book of Worship* calls this “A Service of Death and Resurrection.” In this type of service we confront the reality of death as it pertains to the earthly body, that is, we grieve the loss of our loved one and friend. We give thanks for the life lived on this earth and for God’s grace that gave this person salvation and eternal life. We remember those saints who have gone before us and their lives of faith, and, above all, we celebrate Christ’s victory over death.

Worship and Witness Like all worship services in our tradition, this one presents elements of worship and witness. What does this mean in terms of how the service is planned and organized? First, the focus is on God, the object of our *worship*. The service gives *witness* to Christ our Redeemer as the host. We then are the guests. Through worship and witness we comfort those who mourn and affirm to those present God’s love in life and in death. (This is why the church discourages private burials.) As believers we have the opportunity to proclaim confidently that those who die in the Lord will likewise rise with him. We know that Jesus has returned to his heavenly Father to prepare a place where our loved one and all believers will live with God forever. This is our hope in Christ.

Planning the Service Since each service is an expression of the deceased person’s life in Christ, no two Services of Death and Resurrection are alike. The ministerial staff and the Director of Music and Worship will assist you in planning the order of service, the scripture lessons to be read, and the music to be sung and played. Most services in our church include at least one reading from the Old and New Testaments because together they chronicle God’s creating and redeeming acts in the lives of his people. All scripture looks to the story of Christ’s death and resurrection or reflects back on it. In many cases, the Minister(s) read(s) a composite of passages appropriate to the service. (See Appendix D for a list of frequently used scriptures.) The Minister(s) will read scripture, offer prayers, summarize the life of the deceased, and give a homily that speaks to those who are grieving and that testifies to the hope that we have as baptized Christians. At times, family members read scripture. Participation of outside clergy must be approved in advance by the Senior Minister.

Communion Some families ask about including the sacrament of Holy Communion in the service. When making a decision about including Communion in the service, families often consider how many non-Christians are among the deceased’s friends as well as how many different Christian denominations are likely to be represented in the congregation, keeping in mind that this sacrament has different meanings among various Christian churches. The staff will prayerfully work with you on this decision. Also note that in the United Methodist Church, our tradition is to invite all Christians to the Lord’s Table. But there should be no pressure that might embarrass those who, for their own reasons, do not choose to receive Communion.

Eulogies While some congregations place emphasis on eulogies given by laypersons, we do not emphasize this practice in our services. If the family feels strongly that there should be a eulogy beyond what is offered by the Minister, our practice is that there be no more than two and that they be no longer than three minutes each. Care should be taken to ensure that speakers are emotionally prepared to speak about the deceased. (In most cases, immediate family members are not ready to speak publicly about their loved one.) We also reserve the right for the officiating

Minister to intervene if content unbecoming a Christian service is used or if time limits are not observed.

Music The music will be appropriate to a service of worship (secular music is not used but may be considered for the reception following the service). The text of all vocal and choral selections will be based in scripture and will focus on praising God, giving thanks, God's attributes, his creative and redemptive work in the lives of humankind, and his provision of an eternal home for believers in Christ. There are usually two or three congregational hymns and an instrumental (organ) prelude and postlude. Hymns are the congregation's opportunity to participate in the service. The Director of Music and Worship will locate soloists or instrumentalists as needed. Outside musicians must be approved in advance by the Director of Music and Worship. Appendix E of this manual has a list of appropriate hymns suggested by *The United Methodist Book of Worship* and often used in our church. If you would like a recording of the service, please call the church office before the date of the service.

Other Liturgical Details When there is a casket present, the church makes available a special cloth, or pall, to be placed over the casket. Likewise, if an urn is used, the church provides a cloth to be placed over the urn. These elements, like the paraments on the altar, pulpit, and lectern, are white, recalling our baptism into the body of Christ and our belief that in Christ we shall be clothed in glory when earthly life ends. Church staff will advise the funeral home in the appropriate liturgical placement of the casket or urn. The Christ Candle burns at every Service of Death and Resurrection. Appendix F outlines the policy for flowers used in the Sanctuary or Chapel, based on the guidelines developed by our Flower Guild.

Non-liturgical Elements All observances of a secular nature, such as rites of various fraternal organizations and clubs, will be conducted at a separate time and location. Note that no photographs, secular insignias, or images are used on the casket or the altar. Such items may be displayed on the table in the Narthex or in Bailey Hall (see section 4 below). In the United Methodist Church, when military rites are observed, they take place at the end of the service, following the final benediction. Often they are conducted at the gravesite or columbarium. Military rites are performed by one of the military branches for a Soldier, Sailor, Marine, Coast Guardsman, or Airman who died in battle, a veteran, or other prominent military figure or head of state. They may feature guards of honor, the firing of volley shots as a salute, presentation of a flag, and/or bugle calls. At times the Honor Guard will, at a minimum, perform a ceremony that includes folding and presenting a flag of the USA to the next of kin and the playing of Taps by a lone bugler or an audio recording. On those rare occasions when rites are conducted at a church or funeral chapel and volley shots are fired, this is done outside the doors of the building. At a gravesite, the guard stands at a prescribed distance so as not to deafen the attendees.

Worship Bulletin The church staff will prepare a printed bulletin for the service in consultation with the family. The cover of the bulletin usually consists of a photograph of the deceased alone. The inside left panel contains a scripture, hymn text, or poem that had special meaning for the deceased. The inside right panel shows the order of worship. On the back of the bulletin the obituary is often printed, or photos of the deceased with family and/or friends may be used.

Ushers Church ushers will oversee the seating of guests, ensure that space is reserved for the family, pallbearers, honorary pallbearers, and other special guests, and distribute bulletins.

Order of Service Here is a common outline for the order of service. Every service is slightly different, but this outline is typical. A more formal order of service including a liturgy may be found in *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (see Appendix G for an adapted formal liturgy). In cases where the family wishes to hear the pre-service music, they may be escorted into the service venue before the music begins.

Pre-service Music (the Prelude)
Processional (the congregation stands as a sign of respect)
Processional Order
 The Cross (Crucifer)
 The Officiant(s)
 The Family, accompanied by the Pastor
The Call to Worship
Opening Hymn
Apostles' Creed
Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer
Selected Readings from the Old Testament
Hymn or Solo
Selected Readings from the New Testament
Homily
Prayer of Intercession
Closing Hymn
Benediction
Recessional and Postlude

Participants' Arrival The family and other participants in the service, such as eulogists and musicians, should arrive at the church at least 45 minutes in advance of the announced start time of the funeral. Volunteers from the church will accompany you to the church Parlor, which is available for family to assemble in privacy until the hour of service. The officiating Minister will join you there. Also during this time, the staff will advise eulogists on how to approach the chancel, where to stand, and how to use the microphone. It is always prudent to arrange for a close friend to remain in the family's home during the hour of the service and the reception. Families should also arrange for the care of a pet if there is one.

The Lord will rescue me from all evil and take me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever.

--2 Timothy 4:18

The grace of God has appeared, with salvation for all people.

--Titus 2:11

4 Following the Service

Reception in Bailey Hall The church has a standing committee of volunteers who plan and carry out receptions for family members and friends in Bailey Hall immediately following the service. The reception is a ministry of the church, and there is no charge to the family. The family should call the church office to confirm that they want such a reception; at that time they should indicate an approximate number of family and friends who will attend. The reception is our church's equivalent of a traditional "visitation."

Items on Display at Reception The reception is the appropriate venue for displaying photographs, mementos, and other personal items, if families wish to do so. The church office will also assist with the projection of digital photographs on the large screens inside and outside Bailey Hall, if desired.

Burial or Inurnment If burial or inurnment will take place locally and has not already occurred prior to the service, the presiding Minister(s) will conduct a brief service of committal at the graveside or, when cremation has occurred, at the columbarium.

No Charges to the Family There is no charge to the family of the deceased for the use of facilities, the service bulletin, musicians and staff time. Families who wish to make a love offering to one of the church's funds as a sign of appreciation may do so by writing a check to SIUMC, with the specific fund indicated on the memo line of the check, and delivering it to the Controller or the office staff. Honorariums for the Ministers and/or the Director of Music and Worship are most commonly given to the Minister's Discretionary Fund or the Music Fund accordingly.

God is not a God of the Dead, but of the living—for all who are in Christ are alive and enjoying his presence.

—Luke 20:38

5 The Communion of Saints

The Fellowship of All Believers In his work on the Kingdom of Heaven, the nineteenth-century scholar Edward Burbidge defines the meaning of “the Communion of Saints” as “the Communion or fellowship which Christians enjoy with God, and therefore with one another, whether in this world or in Paradise.” The United Methodist Church believes that when we worship, we are accompanied by all those believers who have gone before us and who join us in the praise and adoration of our God. Today’s readers will think of the words we speak during the liturgy for Communion: “With your people on earth and all the company of Heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn.”

Preserving the Memory of Those Who Have Gone Before Us Most writers who study death and resurrection recommend that congregations find ways in the ongoing life of the church to remember those saints who are now part of the company of heaven. Skidaway Island United Methodist Church has several ways of commemorating those who have entered into eternal life.

- Each year we conduct a Service of Healing and Loss that recalls the departed and reaches out to those in grief.
- On All Saints Day we read the name of each church member who has died within the last year. As each name is read, a candle is lit, and a chime tolls, in remembrance of their role in our faith community.
- In the church’s courtyard near the prayer labyrinth, the All Saints Memorial Wall lists the names of all members who have entered into eternal life.
- The church has established the Saum Memorial Garden across the driveway from the Chapel. The plantings and other landscape features are maintained by volunteers to highlight the beauty of God’s creation and his eternal presence in our lives. Flowers remind us of Christ’s resurrection. The garden provides a quiet place for reflection and remembrance. Church members may purchase a niche for inurnment in our columbarium located within the memorial garden, by calling the church office (see Appendix C regarding policies and costs).
- Congregants may designate gifts to memorialize family members and friends in various ways. Church staff members are available to discuss these opportunities with you. The memorial book in the Narthex of our Sanctuary lists the many generous memorial gifts that were instrumental in the building and furnishing of our facilities.
- Church members may underwrite the cost of altar flowers at Sunday services to memorialize loved ones, by calling the church office at (912) 598-8460.

*“The Saints on earth, and those above,
But one communion make;
Joined to their Lord in bonds of love,
All of His grace partake.”*

–Charles Wesley

Appendix A

Omega File

Skidaway Island United Methodist Church

This questionnaire is intended to help the church serve you better. If you'd like, please fill out the form and return it to the church. This is critical information to prepare **ahead** of crisis! This form is advised by the National Institutes of Health & The United Methodist Church.

[See next page]

Full Name:				
Address:				
Phone Number:				
Date of Birth:		Birth Place:		
Status (Circle one):	Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed
Occupation:				
Spouse's Full Name:			Marriage Date:	
Who are two persons you would like contacted, in case of an emergency? (name, phone, location)				
1.				
2.				
Do you have an Advanced Healthcare Directive?				
If so, where is it? (e.g., name of hospital/doctor, refrigerator)				
Funeral Home Preference:				
Type of Funeral:	Church	Graveside	Memorial Service (cremation)	
Favorite passage or scripture reading desired:				
Special service requests:				
Preferred Hymns:				
Readings, poetry, etc:				
Any philanthropic services performed that should be mentioned?				

Any special achievements, accomplishments or traits that would make this service more meaningful?

Bequests in lieu of flowers?

Is there any consideration in your will to remember the church?

Appendix B Other Important Documents

In addition to completing the Omega File, consider making other important legal, business, and personal information available to your family or a trusted professional. This should not be considered an exhaustive list, but some examples that may apply to some individuals:

Funeral Home Preference and Contact Information
Last Will and Testament
Documents related to Cemetery Plot or Columbarium Niche
Preference about Where Memorial Gifts Should Be Directed
Durable Power of Attorney
Health Care Power of Attorney
Advance Directive (Living Will)
Do-Not-Resuscitate Order
Registered Organ Donor?
Biographical Information
Designation of Guardianship of Minor Children
Trusts (created by you or in which you are a beneficiary)
Location of Safety Deposit Box and Key
Mortgages
Loans
Credit Cards
Equity Lines
Tangible Personal Property
Status as a Trustee, Conservator, Guardian, Agent, Executor for Anyone
Birth Certificate
Marriage License
Adoption Documents
Divorce Documents
Passport
Copyrights, Patents, Royalties
Income Tax Records
Insurance Policies
Passwords and Information on Assets and Accounts (Banks, Brokerages)
Retirement Plans (Pensions, Annuities, IRAs)
Financial Arrangements that Are Not Memorialized (e.g., gifts, loans, etc.)
Employer Death Benefits
Succession Plans for Business Interests
Pet Names and Plans for Them
Names and Contact Information:
Attorney
Executor
Tax professional
Financial planner
Trustee(s), if any
Banking representatives
Insurance agent(s)
Business partner(s)

Appendix C

Saum Memorial Garden Policies and Procedures

The purpose of the Memorial Garden is to provide an area of beauty and dignity for the caring disposition of the cremated remains of loved ones. It serves to unite the church family and offers comfort to those who wish to remain close to the church even in death. The garden provides an alternative memorial that is suited to our beliefs and is accessible to all of our members.

A Memorial Garden Committee shall be responsible for formulating policies and procedures and shall govern the operation of the garden. The committee shall also determine who qualifies for the placing of cremains in the garden. Only the clergy may actually inter the cremains in the ground or a niche.

Disposition of ashes may be of three types:

1. In a biodegradable holder buried in the ground among the plantings.
2. In a container within a niche in the memorial wall.
3. Scattered within the garden.

Only current and former members of Skidaway Island United Methodist Church and their immediate families may be interred in the garden or memorial wall. Appropriate fees will be charged for names inscribed on the plaque or face of the niches (see fee structure below).

Niches in the wall may be reserved by payment of the current fee. Spaces may be selected by the buyer and the location of occupied or reserved spaces is kept in a master file in the church office.

A certificate of ownership will be issued showing location and date purchased. If for any reason a decision is made not to use a niche already selected and paid for, it must be turned in to the Memorial Garden Committee and when resold the original purchase price will be refunded.

Receipts in excess of the amount required for the present expenses of the garden will be held in a separate fund to be administered by the Memorial Garden Committee. This will be expended only for the perpetual care and maintenance of the Memorial Garden and capital expenditures required in connection with the garden.

No form of burial site identification may be installed other than names on the common plaque or the memorial wall. To prevent future duplication, names may not be inscribed on both the common plaque and the niches.

Flowers will be permitted for a private interment service. They will be removed within one week of the service. To remember a loved one on a special occasion, a single flower in a bud vase or floral tube may be placed on the sidewalk in front of the wall. No floral arrangements, plants, artificial flowers or other mementos are permitted in the garden and nothing may be attached to the wall.

Contributions in memory of a loved one may be made to the Memorial Garden Fund for replacement of seasonal flowers or shrubs in the garden.

Only standardization of inscription on faces of niches in the Memorial Garden Wall is permitted as shown in these examples.

EXAMPLES:

SINGLE:

DOUBLE:

JANE D.
DOE
June 30, + Dec 12,
1968 1994

DOE
JOHN D.
1900 + 1995
JANE D.
1899 + 1989

NICHE DIMENSIONS

top-to-bottom: 9 ¼”
side-to-side: 9 ½”
front-to-back: 9 ½”

CURRENT FEES

Brass nameplate for bronze plaque (for ashes that are buried/scattered) \$275.00

Niche in Memorial Garden Wall \$1500.00

(Includes price of the first engraving of the granite niche face)

Second engraving of niche face \$175.00

The Memorial Garden Committee reserves the right to modify or revoke these policies and procedures and to adjust fees from time to time.

Appendix D
Suggested Scripture Readings from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

Genesis 15:15	Abraham's death
Genesis 49:1, 29-33; 50:1-2, 12-14	Jacob's death and Joseph's response
Exodus 15	Canticle of Moses and Miriam
Joshua 3:14-4:7	Crossing over Jordan
Job 1:21	Job's faith
Job 14:1-12a	We are of few days.
Job 19:25-27	My Redeemer lives.
Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31	A good woman
Isaiah 25:1, 6-9	God will swallow up death.
Isaiah 26:1-4, 19	Your dead shall live.
Isaiah 35:1-6, 10	Zion restored
Isaiah 41:8-10, 13	Do not fear.
Isaiah 57:14-19	Poem of consolation
Isaiah 61:1-4, 10-11	The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.
Isaiah 66:10-13	As a mother comforts, so does God.
Ezekiel 34:11-16	Shepherd of Israel
Ezekiel 37:1-14, 21-28	These bones can live.
Micah 6:6-8	What does the Lord require?
Zephaniah 3:16-20	Restoration of Israel
Psalms 27	Devotion and deliverance
Psalms 34	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Psalms 40	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Psalms 71	Deliverance from evil
Psalms 77	Deliverance from trouble
Psalms 84	How lovely is your dwelling place.
Psalms 118	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Psalms 126	Prayer for deliverance
Psalms 143	Prayer for deliverance
Acts 10:34-43	Peter's sermon on Jesus' resurrection
Romans 5:1-22, 17-21	Peace with God through faith
Romans 6:3-11	Dying and rising with Christ
Romans 14:7-9	Christ, Lord of the dead and the living
2 Corinthians 5:1-11a, 14-20	Away from the body, at home in the Lord
Ephesians 3:14-21	Bow before God; know the love of Christ
Philippians 3:7-21	The power of Christ's resurrection
Colossians 3:1-17	Raised with Christ
1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11	Concerning those who sleep
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18	I have fought the good fight.
Hebrews 11-12	The saints of God
1 John 3:1-3	We shall be like God.
Revelation 14:1-3, 6-7, 12-13	Blessed are the dead in the Lord.
Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes
Matthew 6:19-21	Do not lay up treasures on earth.
Matthew 11:25-30	Come to me all who labor.

Matthew 25:31-46
Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20
Mark 16:1-8
Luke 1:67-75
Luke 12:22-40
Luke 24:1-12
John 3:13-17
John 5:19-29
John 6:30-40, 47-51
John 10:1-18, 27-30
John 12:20-36
John 15:1-17
John 16:12-22, 33
John 20

As you did it to one of the least
Jesus' resurrection: Go make disciples.
The open tomb: Jesus goes before you.
Canticle of Zechariah
Do not be anxious; be ready.
The empty tomb
God's gift of eternal life
Whoever hears and believes has life.
Jesus the bread of life
Jesus the Good Shepherd
Unless a grain of wheat dies
The vine and the branches
Sorrow becomes joy.
Jesus' resurrection

Appendix E
Suggested Hymns from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

110	A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
700	Abide with Me
62	All Creatures of Our God and King
154	All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
155	All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
166	All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine
378	Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound
530	Are Ye Able
534	Be Still, My Soul
451	Be Thou My Vision
364	Because He Lives
557	Blest Be the Tie that Binds
420	Breathe on Me, Breath of God
141	Children of the Heavenly Father
318	Christ Is Alive
302	Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
407	Close to Thee
158	Come, Christians, Join to Sing
709	Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above
510	Come, Ye Disconsolate
687	Day Is Dying in the West
304	Easter People, Raise Your Voices
710	Faith of Our Fathers
711	For All the Saints
438	Forth in Thy Name
129	Give to the Winds Thy Fears
731	Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken
577	God of Grace and God of Glory
127	Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
128	He Leadeth Me
77	How Great Thou Art
711	Hymn of Promise
142	If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee
60	I'll Praise My Maker
103	Immortal, Invisible
314	In the Garden
183	Jesu, Thy Boundless Love to Me
469	Jesus Is All the World to Me
509	Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me
89	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
344	Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore
384	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
733	Marching to Zion
368	My Hope Is Built

452 My Faith Looks Up to Thee
528 Nearer, My God, to Thee
57 O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
117 O God, Our Help in Ages Past
480 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go
66 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
474 Precious Lord, Take My Hand
160 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart
361 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me
666 Shalom to You
395 Take Time to Be Holy
545 The Church's One Foundation
303 The Day of Resurrection
116 The God of Abraham Praise
138 The King of Love My Shepherd Is
136 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want
306 The Strife Is O'er
308 Thine Be the Glory
292 What Wondrous Love Is This

Appendix F **Guidelines for Flowers**

The following information has been provided by the Flower Guild of Skidaway Island United Methodist Church for use in planning funerals that will take place in our Sanctuary or Chapel. Please share this information with your florist and contact the church with any questions you may have (contact information appears below).

Recommended Florists:

Kiwi Fleur Florist
(912) 352-0995

Ramelle's Florist
(912) 234-2261

John Davis Florist
(912) 233-6977

John Wolf Florist
(912) 352-9843

Guidelines for Your Arrangement:

- Our practice is that only one set of flowers be used for the service, and that it be an arrangement on the center of the altar table.
- We recommend that large or medium arrangements be used on the altar table. Small arrangements in vases appear out of proportion.
- Arrangements on the altar table in the Sanctuary should be no taller than the altar candles (30 inches) and no wider than the distance between them (44 inches). Under no circumstances should the altar candles be moved. The altar table is 31 inches deep.
- Dimensions for Chapel arrangements are 22 inches high, 35 inches wide, and 30 inches deep.
- The church's urns are not available for your use. Please ask your florist to plan accordingly.
- For funerals, we recommend that any small vases, wreaths, or other flowers sent to the family be placed in the Parlor or the fellowship hall.
- If flowers are used on the altar, no other items (flags, photos, memorabilia, etc.) should be placed on the table. The altar should never appear overcrowded. The church has a special pedestal designed to hold a folded flag.
- When cremains are placed on the altar, no flowers are used on the altar. The church's two wooden flower stands are available for your use. These are designed for fern-type arrangements, and are normally placed inside
- the communion rail on each side of the chancel/altar area.

Church Contact Information:

Justin L. Addington
Director of Music & Worship
(912) 598-8460

Caroline Nusloch
Chair of SIUMC Flower Guild
(912) 598-0142

Appendix G
The United Methodist Service of Death and Resurrection

(Based on *The United Methodist Book of Worship*)

A SERVICE OF DEATH AND RESURRECTION

ENTRANCE

GATHERING

Dying, Christ destroyed our death.
Rising, Christ restored our life.
Christ will come again in glory.
As in baptism _____ put on Christ,
so in Christ may _____ be clothed with glory.
Here and now, dear friends, we are God's children.
What we shall be has not yet been revealed;
but we know that when he appears, we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.
Those who have this hope purify themselves
as Christ is pure.

THE WORD OF GRACE

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and I am life.
Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live,
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.
I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.
I died, and behold I am alive for evermore,
and I hold the keys of hell and death.
Because I live, you shall live also.

GREETING

Friends, we have gathered here to praise God and to witness to our faith as we celebrate the life of _____.
We come together in grief, acknowledging our human loss.
May God grant us grace, that in pain we may find comfort,
in sorrow hope, in death resurrection.

HYMN - _____

PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, who gave us birth,
you are ever more ready to hear
than we are to pray.
You know our needs before we ask,
and our ignorance in asking.
Give to us now your grace,
that as we shrink before the mystery of death,
we may see the light of eternity.
Speak to us once more
your solemn message of life and of death.
Help us to live as those who are prepared to die.
And when our days here are accomplished,
enable us to die as those who go forth to live,
so that living or dying, our life may be in you,
and that nothing in life or in death will be able to separate us
from your great love in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

HYMN - _____

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON - _____

PSALM - _____

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON - _____

HYMN - _____

GOSPEL LESSON - _____

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - UMH #881
The Apostles' Creed

HYMN - _____

COMMENDATION

PRAYER

Receive _____ into the arms of your mercy.

Raise _____ up with all your people.
Receive us also, and raise us into a new life.
Help us so to love and serve you in this world
that we may enter into your joy in the world to come.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

(This part of the liturgy will be used only when the Sacrament of Holy Communion is observed.)

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(The pastor continues the thanksgiving.)

And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

(The pastor continues the thanksgiving.)

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

(The pastor continues.)

All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING FORTH

HYMN - _____

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING