

**Falling Run Missionary Baptist Church
2852 Cedar Creek Road
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28312**

Dr. Reginald A. Wells, Pastor

Funeral Policies and Practices

Funeral Services

Even for Christians, the death of a loved one is a difficult experience. We grieve the loss of one who has been close, but we do not sorrow as those who have no hope (1 Thessalonians 4: 13). It is our desire and privilege to minister to the families of our congregation in their time of need. It is through the Word of God that we have hope at the time of the death of a loved one (Romans 15: 4). Our prayers and thoughts are with you now as you begin to plan the funeral services of your loved one. Recognizing that this can be a very difficult time, we will make every effort to assist you in the planning of the funeral. This policy is provided to assist our families in planning and providing a Christian funeral.

Members

1. When death occurs in the church family, the pastor or assigned deacon should be immediately notified. This call will give you the benefit of the pastor's comfort and experience in making funeral arrangements. The Pastor, or a deacon will work with you to assist you in designing a service that honors your loved one and reflects the doctrine and decorum of Falling Run Missionary Baptist Church.
2. Funerals at Falling Run Missionary Baptist Church are considered worship services. It is recommended that the funeral service of members be held in the church.
3. The Pastor will conduct the funeral services and offer words of comfort that God gives through the promises found in His Holy Word. If the pastor for any reason is not available to conduct the service, **the Pastor will appoint a minister to conduct the funeral.**
4. The order of service will include the singing of hymns of victory and praise, scripture readings, remarks, acknowledgements, eulogy and a resolution from the church.

5. To show our love and esteem for the deceased member, the church will provide a musician, a flower for the funeral service and basic fellowship meal for the family and friends. Details will be handled by the church office.

6. Since the funeral service of a member is regarded as a worship experience of Falling Run Missionary Baptist Church, no fees of any kind will be charged for the use of the church's facilities or its personnel for funeral services of members.

7. The practice of "viewing the remains" or "final viewing" after the eulogy is strongly discouraged. Viewings can be planned at the funeral home where family and friends can gather together to encourage each other. A viewing one-hour prior to the service is encouraged. The family is encouraged to view the body as they enter the sanctuary to be seated.

8. Because fraternal or civic rites of any kind are not a part of the worship service, these organizations should pay tribute to the deceased at another hour. Such rites can be performed at the funeral home, during family hour, or they can be performed before the funeral services begin.

Non-Members

Conducting funerals for people who have no connection with the church is a normal part of the ministerial obligation. However, it is up to the discretion of the pastor to allow himself or the church to participate.

1. There will not be a fee for the use of the church for an individual who is NOT a member of Falling Run Missionary Baptist Church.

2. The church is not responsible for compensating a musician, or provide a fellowship meal for the funeral service of a non-member.

3. The Pastor will plan and officiate the funeral of a non-member of Falling Run Missionary Baptist Church. As in the case of any funeral, other ministers must be approved and authorized by the Pastor to officiate or conduct a funeral service at the church.