



## FUNERAL POLICY

At Good Shepherd Baptist Church (GSBC) our primary spiritual responsibility is to its members "In Good Standing". Good Shepherd Baptist Church offers these privileges to church members who support the ministry of this church spiritually and financially. Please be advised that our Benevolent Program may not be used to offset any funeral expenses. Immediate family members are defined as: Parent; Spouses; Siblings/Children

A member in good standing is a person who has received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who has completed the new member's requirements and has been fellowshiped in, who attends the worship services regularly, and who contributes to the financial support of the church.



It is the policy of this church to so assemble, not to mourn the dead, but to praise eternal life brought about by a risen savior.

Good Shepherd Baptist Church does not allow Fraternity, Sorority or Masonic rituals before, during, or after funeral services conducted here. These activities must be performed elsewhere.

In addition, during the service, only 2 resolutions in honor of loved ones will be read, and a maximum of 4 people will be allowed to give remarks. The names of those individuals will be listed in the program. As a service of worship, the funeral will be an affirmation to our witness of eternal hope.

## MEMBERS

1. When death occurs in the church family, the church office should be immediately notified. If death occurs outside of normal office hours. A message should be left and a n officer of the Church will be in contact. The Church office will assist the family in preparation and offer Christian solace.
2. Funerals at Good Shepherd Baptist Church will be considered worship services. It is recommended that the funeral service of members be held in the church. The funeral director or family member should notify the church office in order to schedule the service.
3. The GSBC Pastor will conduct the funeral services and offer words of comfort that God gives through the promises found in His Holy Word. If a GSBC Pastor for any reason is not available to conduct the service, the Church will appoint a minister. The Church must authorize and approve a minister who is not a member of Good Shepherd Baptist Church to do the eulogy of the church member at the service.
4. When the funeral service is held at the church, for members as well as non-members, **viewing of the physical remains will occur only during the family visitation period prior to the actual funeral service. The casket will be closed at the start of the home going service.**
5. The order of service will include the singing of songs of victory and praise and church resolutions in honor of the loved one will be read.



## FEES

1. To show our love and esteem for the deceased member, the church will provide a musician, and a fellowship meal for 50 for family and friends. Details will be handled by the church.
2. Since the funeral service of a member is regarded as a worship experience of Good Shepherd 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.

**(All services and fellowship activities must conclude by 3:00 pm.)**

3. A church resolution will be written and given to members for the death of any family member.
4. All funeral programs must be proofed and approved by the church office before printing sending to your selected printer.



While the Christian grieves at the death of a loved one, the extent of that sorrow is based upon knowledge of whether or not the individual has Salvation through Jesus Christ.

Based upon the scripture we “believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep.”  
(II Thessalonians 4:14)



### Memorial Gifts

#### *Expressions of Love*

*It will be appropriate for family and friends to consider appropriate memorial gifts to the church as an expression of their love and appreciation of the deceased.*

*The Church Business Director can inform the family and friends of appropriate needs they might fulfill through such memorials.*

This policy was ratified by the Executive Board of Good Shepherd Baptist Church on May 24, 2009 effective June 15, 2009.

Amended: September 9, 2013

Amended: July 20, 2014

Amended: February 21, 2023

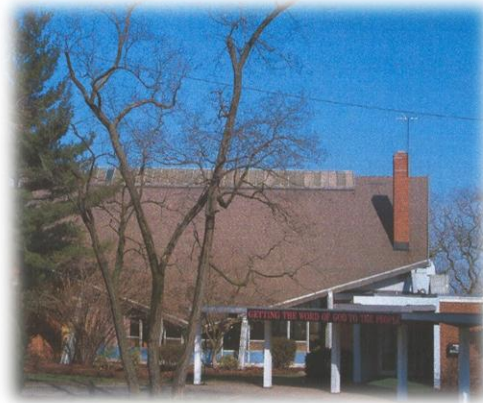
Amended: September 9, 2025

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**Cleveland, OH 44112**

**Church Office**  
**216-481-5444**

**GSBCMINISTRY.ORG**

**“Getting The Word of God To The People”**



**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**



**GSBC Members**

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**Psalms 30:5**

Weeping may remain for a night, but  
rejoicing comes in the morning.