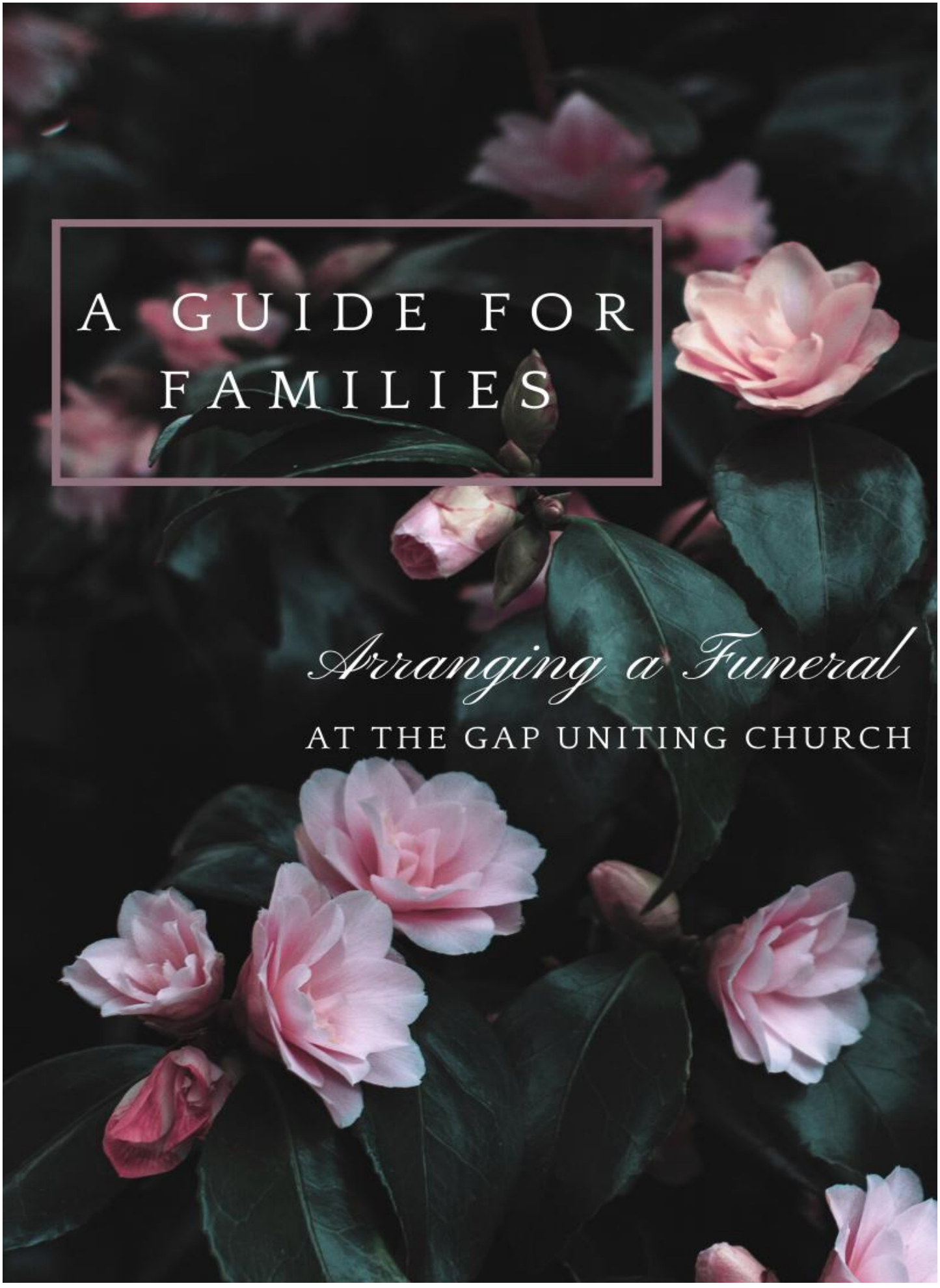

The Gap
UNITING CHURCH

Growing Lifelong
Disciples of Christ

Thank you for allowing us to share in your time of loss and sadness at The Gap Uniting Church. The funeral will take place within an act of Christian worship, where we acknowledge God's purpose for life and ask for His help in dealing with the loss of your loved one. This booklet is designed to help you as you plan for this funeral.

Booking a Funeral

At The Gap Uniting Church, we understand that arranging a funeral is a significant process and responsibility. Our church seeks to provide a respectful, caring, and supportive setting in which family and friends can gather to give thanks, remember a loved one, and find comfort and hope grounded in the Christian faith.

Please check the availability of the Church by contacting our Church Office, 3300 2712, office hours: Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri 9:00am – 12 noon *(closed on Thursdays)*.

A meeting will then be set up between the family and the Minister to discuss the funeral arrangements such as the type of service required, the need for sound, projection, organ/piano, and stewards to assist with seating.

Please note that many arrangements can usually be made through a Funeral Home, allowing family members time to concentrate on supporting each other and close friends.

Terms and Conditions

- The use of alcohol on the church premises is not allowed.

- The use of film or video to capture the funeral for absent family members is allowed, in consultation with the Minister.

The following information outlines the standard costs associated with funeral services connected with The Gap Uniting Church. All arrangements are subject to availability. Costs are negotiable through the minister based on personal circumstance.

Funeral Service Fees

The following information outlines the standard costs associated with funeral services connected with The Gap Uniting Church. All arrangements are subject to availability. Costs are negotiable through the minister based on personal circumstance. Fees are GST inclusive.

Item	Fee	Includes / Notes
Basic funeral service at the church	$1,600	Use of the car park, main auditorium, foyer, bathrooms, church AV system, and silk flowers. This fee also covers the minister, administration, and cleaning. Subject to availability, the church may provide a pianist, stewards, and an AV system operator.
Larger funeral attendance	$200	Applies where expected attendance exceeds 150 people. Please note that onsite parking is limited.
Kitchen and foyer use following the service	$300	Includes use of the foyer and kitchen for approximately 90 minutes after the funeral, including crockery, cutlery, tables, and tablecloths. Volunteer assistance with setup, serving, and clean-up may be available.
Livestreaming and recording	$300	Available subject to an AV system operator. The service link will be made available through the church website.
Minister presiding offsite	$500	Applies to services held at crematoriums, funeral homes, or other offsite venues. Covers the minister, administration, and travel.

Additional Information

The church does not provide catering. On request, the church office can provide a list of suitable catering companies. Where volunteers are not available to assist with kitchen use, arrangements will depend on an external operator holding appropriate liability insurance.

The information on the following pages may be helpful to you as you plan the Funeral Service.

Order of Service - Outline

A Funeral Service Celebrating the Life of *Name of Person*

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION **Rev. Dr. Peter Lockhart**

OPENING PRAYERS **Rev. Dr. Peter Lockhart**

HYMN/SONG **Name of Hymn**
- *Usually something more well-known and celebratory – praising God.*

EULOGY
- *Giving a highlights' story of their life.*
- *Compiled by family, and read by one or more of the family.*
- *Could also be read by a family friend, or by the minister if required.*

REFLECTIONS / MEMORIES
- *Optional – might involve a poem read by grandchildren or close family friend, etc.*
- *ALSO, a pre-prepared slideshow/video with background music goes best here.*

SCRIPTURE **Reading(s)**
- *An opportunity for one or more people to do a Bible reading.*

WORDS OF HOPE **Rev. Dr. Peter Lockhart**

HYMN/SONG **Name of Hymn**
- *Usually something more reflective.*

PASTORAL PRAYERS **Rev. Dr. Peter Lockhart**

COMMENDATION & LORD'S PRAYER **Rev. Dr. Peter Lockhart**

DISMISSAL **Rev. Dr. Peter Lockhart**
(This final part of the funeral service is much shorter and takes place at the graveside/crematorium, but can also occur at the back of the hearse, outside the church, after the service.)

COMMITTAL & BLESSING **Rev. Dr. Peter Lockhart**

Some Suggested Bible Readings

Readings:

Isaiah 41:10, 13	Fear thou not
Psalm 23:1-6	The Lord is my shepherd
Psalm 103: 8-17	The Lord is compassionate and gracious
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	There is a time for everything
Revelation 21:1-7	The one who was seated on the throne

Epistle:

1 Corinthians 13:4-13	Love is patient & kind, love never ends
1 Corinthians 15:42-57	The resurrection of the dead
2 Corinthians 4:16-15:8	Prayers & blessings
1 Thessalonians 4:13-17	We do not want you to be uninformed

Gospel:

John 6:35-40	I am the Bread of Life
John 11:17-27	The raising of Lazarus
John 14:1-4	There are many rooms in my Father's house

Suitable Hymns & Contemporary Songs

Hymns

- Abide With Me
- Amazing Grace
- All to Jesus I Surrender
- Be Thou My Vision
- Because He Lives
- Blessed Assurance
- Great Is Thy Faithfulness
- How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds
- I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
- Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory
- Praise My Soul
- The Lord Is My Shepherd
- There is a Balm in Gilead
- The King of Love, My Shepherd Is

Contemporary Songs

- Amazing – Alex Lloyd
- Angels – Robbie Williams
- Bridge Over Troubled Waters – Simon & Garfunkel
- Candle in the Wind – Elton John
- Don't Dream It's Over – Crowded House
- Everybody Hurts – REM
- Kite – U2
- My Heart Will Go On – Celine Dion
- Time to Say Goodbye – Brightman & Bocelli
- The Long and Winding Road – The Beatles
- Unchained Melody – The Righteous Brothers (or) Elvis
- What a Wonderful World – Louis Armstrong
- Wind Beneath My Wings – Bette Midler

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