

## IN YOUR HOUR OF LOSS...

One of the most poignant and challenging times in the life of any family is at the death of a loved one.

In your hour of loss, the Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church family would like to express our deep and heartfelt sympathy in your hour of bereavement and would like for you to know our prayers are with you at this hour.

It is the desire of Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church to embrace the family of the deceased church member with as much love and support, as possible.

In our efforts to assist you in planning the eulogistic services for your loved one, the following information has been prepared for you by the Pastor, Trustee and Steward boards.

### NOTE:

Immediately after death occurs, the desired funeral director should be called, followed by a call to Pastor Hearst (201-435-8559). They, along with Sis. Erma Greene (201-432-7015), work together to help the family plan the details of the service.

The congregation, officers and staff offer these guidelines as a faithful way to proceed at the time of death. In the name of our Risen Savior, we stand with those who grieve the loss of their loved ones and who celebrate the resurrection of Christ Jesus our Lord. By the great grace of God, may these guidelines guide us in honoring and respecting our loved ones' passing from this world.



At Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church we view the funeral service first and foremost as an act of Christian worship, celebrating the resurrection of Christ from the dead. Within the context of worship we also celebrate and remember the deceased not in a mood of somber reflection but in a spirit of joy and hope. Our hope is that every person will leave the funeral of their loved one filled with a sense of optimism and a desire to honor the deceased by more abundant service and commitment to God in facing the everyday challenge of living.



Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church  
Phone: (201) 435-8559  
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## *Mt. Pisgah*

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
354 Forrest Street, Jersey City, NJ  
(201) 435-3680

**Rev. Dr. Stanley Hearst II, Pastor**

## Funeral Services



*"The Lord gave,  
and the Lord hath taken away;  
blessed be the name of the Lord."  
Job 1:21b*

## THE SERVICE

The resurrection is a central doctrine of the Christian faith and shapes Christians' attitudes and responses to [life and]... death. Death brings loss, sorrow, and grief to all. In the face of death, Christians affirm with tears and joy the hope of the gospel. Christians do not bear bereavement in isolation but are sustained by the power of the Spirit and the community of faith.

The funeral is a service of witness to the resurrection; this should be its primary focus. In order that the attention in the service be directed to God, when a casket is present, it is closed. Final viewings are prior to the Service. The casket is not reopened following the Eulogy. In the Christian faith, the Eulogy is the final expression of praise and celebration for the deceased. The service may include other actions common to the community of faith and its cultures when these actions do not detract from or diminish the Christian understanding of death and resurrection. The service shall be complete in itself, and any fraternal, civic or military rites will be conducted separately and prior to the service.

### NOTE:

Please do not schedule a funeral without contacting the church and speaking with the Pastor or his designee.



## FOR CHURCH MEMBERS

1. Please contact the Church Office (201-435-3680), Pastor Hearst (201-435-8559). The Pastor will visit with the family as soon as he is able to offer pastoral care and guidance.
2. **Planning the service:** Sis. Erma Greene will contact the family to begin the process of planning the funeral service.
3. **Musician and Hospitality Services:** The church office will contact the musician and choir (if needed) and the Hospitality Ministry. The Hospitality Ministry is a care-giving Ministry of Mt. Pisgah Church who prepares and serves a meal for the family at the church immediately following the funeral.
4. **Church Resolution:** The secretary of the Trustee Board will provide a resolution on behalf of the Pastor, officers and members of the Mt. Pisgah family that will include the deceased members' church involvement. Organizations are not required to prepare a separate resolution.
5. **Funeral Director:** The Pastor will work with the family and funeral home to ensure your loved one's funeral is handled with the utmost dignity and respect. It is very important that the Pastor and funeral directors work as a team. If you have not contacted the church when you contact the funeral home, please ask the funeral director to call the church immediately.

## HONORARIUMS

Funerals require special attention on the part of the Church and its staff. The following honorariums are recommended for members and non-members, unless otherwise indicated:

1. *Use of Sanctuary for Service:*
  - Active Member - \$0.00
  - Non Member or Inactive Member - \$300.00
2. *Use of Lower Hall for Repast:*
  - Active Member - \$0.00
  - Non Member or Inactive Member - \$200.00
3. *Eulogist:*
  - Active Member - \$100.00
  - Non Member or Inactive Member - \$200.00
4. *Organist:* \$150.00
5. *Sexton:* \$60.00
6. *Printing of Extra Programs (8½ X 11) – front and back:*
  - Full Black & White \$60.00 per 100 copies

**It is the responsibility of the family to make sure that all honorariums are delivered to the Church office prior to the day of the Funeral Service.**