
Bereavement Meal Team**Purpose:**

Provide a meal for ARBC families mourning the loss of a loved one.

The Bereavement Meal Team is to make arrangements for a meal to be provided when there is a death in the family of an ARBC member, usually husband, wife, or child. Additionally, if a church member has a death in the member's extended family, a meal may be provided if the deceased is not a member of a church, a meal will not be provided by another group, and the funeral is conducted locally. Customarily, a meal is provided during the period from the day of death through the day of the funeral but may be provided at another time by mutual agreement.

The church shall provide budgeted funds for the purchase of required food products and supplies. Team members and other volunteers will obtain/prepare the food and supplies. The Team will set up the facilities (generally the Fellowship Hall), serve the food, and provide clean up. If the meal is held away from ARBC, the Team will prepare and deliver the food at the agreed upon time and location.

Membership:

A Team leader shall be nominated annually by the Nominating Committee and elected by the church to serve a one-year term. A Team leader may serve consecutive terms and shall be a member of the church.

The Team leader shall be responsible for identifying and recruiting Team members. There is no limit on the number of Team members. Team members should ordinarily include individuals who are members of the church. If the Team leader determines the Team composition is insufficient to fulfill the mission, the Team leader may select non-church members to complete the Team.

Ex-officio members of the Team are a Pastoral staff liaison assigned by the Lead Pastor and a Deacon liaison assigned by the Deacon chair.

The Team leader may delegate duties to Pastoral staff when necessary or appropriate. The Team leader may create such sub-groups of the Team as the leader believes is necessary or appropriate to fulfill its duties. Decisions of the Team shall be by consensus to the extent practicable. Any controversies that cannot be resolved by consensus shall be brought to the Deacons for discussion and resolution.

Relationships:

The Team assists the church, within the realm of the Team's purpose, in fulfilling the church's Mission: To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to minister to the needs of our congregation, the community, and the world through the leadership of the Holy Spirit. This Team shall utilize the five Biblical Functions of Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Ministry, and Evangelism in meeting the Team's purpose and duties and in communicating, collaborating, coordinating, and cooperating with others. This Team works closely with the church staff and the Kitchen Committee.

Duties and responsibilities:

1. Administer an equitable meal distribution plan for bereaved church families.
2. Organize a core group of Team members and other volunteers for meal preparation and serving.
3. Serve a meal to each bereaved church family if mutually agreeable.
4. Advise the Kitchen Committee of supplies used as well as any equipment problems.
5. Meet as often as needed to accomplish the Team's purpose.
6. Invite assigned the Pastoral staff and Deacon liaisons to Team meetings.
7. The Team leader, or designee, when requested, shall make reports to meetings of the Deacons and shall remain in communication, coordination, and cooperation with other Church teams, committees and groups.
8. The Team leader, or designee, when requested, shall make reports to meetings of the Church in conference.