

Guidelines for Amazing Grace

Singing Amazing Grace for Koinonia at Funeral Home visiting hours has become an important way we share God's love with one another. While we welcome the opportunity to provide this caring support to all Koinonians, we feel that it is important that we respect the wishes of families at the time of their loss. We will sing only if the family requests. Bereavement is a time of intense feelings. We want to be sensitive to persons in a time of their grief, respectful of family members who may not share the Koinonia experience, and considerate of the variety of ways persons deal with emotions.

The core Board suggests that as Koinonians and their families make funeral arrangements, they may discuss including the Amazing Grace singing during visiting hours. When a family would like the community to sing, The Koinonian should contact the lay leader, assistant lay leader or secretary **by phone** to make the request. We suggest that singing be scheduled for 8:00 p.m. during evening visiting hours to assure availability of Koinonians, The funeral director may be asked to include a line announcing, "The Koinonian community will sing at 8 p.m." in the visiting hours noted in the obituary.

Singing Amazing Grace for our members in their time of need is a very special 4th day palanca, it is important that Koinonians respond to a request to sing making the effort to come and sing and show our support.

Respectfully,
Core Board Members
Koinonia of Jamestown and Chautauqua County