

## PROPOSED GUIDELINES

### Emergency Defined:

---

- A life-threatening event where the member has no other support system available.

### Non-Emergency Defined:

---

- Preplanned procedures or situations where there are other supports in place.



### Daytime Emergency (w/ Support):

---

- Will receive a visit or call from Deacon Toni within 1-3 hrs.

### Middle of the Night Emergency Procedure (w/ Support):

---

- Will receive a follow-up call within 12-24 hrs.

### Middle of the Night Emergency Procedure (w/o Support):

---

- Will receive a visit within three (3) hours from the deacon, elder/ pastor team closest to the hospital where member is being served.

### Middle of the Night Non-Emergency:

---

- Will receive a follow-up call the next morning between 12-24hrs. after being notified by Administrator.

### Bereavement of Member:

---

- Bereavement of family member both with and without support: an immediate call from member of congregational care to triage the need followed by a visit within 4-6 hrs. based on the results.



## Reheboth Fellowship of Atlanta, UCC CHURCH GUIDELINES FOR VISTATIONS

### Hospital Visits:

---

When conducting an OFFICIAL CHURCH HOSPITAL VISIT, the following things should be adhered to: **(1)** Hospital visits should be **no longer than 20-30 minutes** (as to not be an undue burden on the patient). **(2)** Leaders should **REFRAIN** from wearing perfumes, colognes, or scented lotions/creams. (Patients could become hypo/hyper allergic when ill. This also could cause adverse reactions for the patient given the nature of their illness). **(3)** Leaders should **REFRAIN** from bringing food and/or beverages unless you attain prior approval from the patient and/or family members who are authorized to approve such. This includes Holy Communion (bread & wine) as some patients are NPO and food/drink could further complicate their condition. **(4) ALWAYS** bring greetings from Pastor Troy and/or Pastor Cre and end all official visits with a short scripture (**no more than 2 verses**) and a short prayer (**no more than 3 minutes**). Appropriate scriptures and prayers should include a prayer of petition for healing unless otherwise requested by the patient. **(5)** Please **REFRAIN** from making commitments, promises, and/or church obligations without having prior consent from our pastors and if you commit yourself please make sure you honor/follow thru on promises. Leaders should **ALWAYS REFRAIN** from having conversations regarding private church matters, “church-gossip”, opinions about other leaders or church members, or any other controversial topics.

### Home Visits (Sick & Shut – In):

---

When conducting an official HOME VISIT (SICK & SHUT-IN), all of the above guidelines should be observed with the following additional considerations: **(1)** Leaders conducting a sick and shut-in visit should be **no longer than 20-30 minutes** (as to not be an undue burden on the patient). **(2)** Leaders should **REFRAIN** from eating meals when on home visits even if offered. Accepting (1) non-alcoholic drink is appropriate and should be done in moderation with extreme sensitivity. **(3)** Unless you are willing to make purchases from your personal funds, Leaders should **REFRAIN** from asking Sick & Shut In members if “they need anything” while visiting. **(4) ALWAYS** bring greetings from Pastor Troy and/or Pastor Cre and end all official visits with a short scripture and a short prayer. **(5)** Please **REFRAIN** from making commitments, promises, and/or church obligations without having prior consent from our pastors and if you commit yourself please make sure you honor/follow thru on promises. Leaders should **ALWAYS REFRAIN** from having conversations regarding private church matters, “church-gossip”, opinions about other leaders or church members, or any other controversial topics.

### Bereavement Visits:

---

When conducting an official BEREAVEMENT VISIT, all of the above guidelines should be observed with the following additional considerations: **(1)** Leaders conducting an official bereavement visit should **REFRAIN** from participating in family meetings, funeral planning, or other family sensitive information or disputes. **(2)** Leaders should **REFRAIN** from inquiries regarding how someone died, or using “cookie-cutter” answers in an attempt to explain untimely or unexpected deaths. **(3)** While bringing food, drinks (non-alcoholic), baked goods, etc., is a cultural norm and are encouraged, leaders should **REFRAIN** from asking for food, drinks, etc. unless others at the home are partaking in such. **(4) ALWAYS** bring greetings from Pastor Troy and/or Pastor Cre and end all official visits with a short scripture and a short prayer. **(5)** Please **REFRAIN** from making commitments, promises, and/or church obligations without having prior consent from our pastors and if you commit yourself please make sure you honor/follow thru on promises. Leaders should **ALWAYS REFRAIN** from having conversations regarding private church matters, “church-gossip”, opinions about other leaders or church members, or any other controversial topics.