

St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery – Guidelines and Rules

Revised: Feb 21, 2019

Sites/Burials

- 1) All burial sites are maintained electronically by the Cemetery Committee and available for viewing on the internet. Refer to the church website for specific locations. Available cemetery plots may be purchased by church members by contacting the church office.
 - a. Burial plots are \$400. A Certificate of lot assignment identifies the specific lot purchased in the name of the Owner.
 - b. A Certificate owner must notify the Cemetery Committee when considering a transfer of ownership of a lot. A lot cannot be sold directly to another owner.

- 2) The St Paul Cemetery Committee allows the following acceptable burials on a **single (one)** grave site.
 - a. One vault burial OR
 - b. One vault burial and two cremation burials in that order OR
 - c. No more than two cremation urn burials (burial sequence: first – more west; second - more east).

- 3) All in-ground interments shall be made with outside liner, burial vault, or combination casket/vault container, which meet industry standards. All urns will be enclosed in an urn vault. An urn vault burial site opening is of the following dimensions: 36 inches in depth, 15 inches in width, and 20 inches in length. The first urn vault on a burial plot will be positioned 12 inches from the headstone. If no headstone exists, allow 24 inches from the top of a burial plot to location of the first urn vault.

- 4) All burials will be coordinated with the church office. A minimum two day notice is required. The following costs will be incurred for opening and closing a burial plot:
 - a. \$1000 for a casket vault
 - b. \$400 for an urn vault

- 5) No interments will be accepted at the cemetery on Sundays or the following holidays: Christmas Day, New Years Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, or Thanksgiving Day.

Disinterment

- 6) Disinterment will be made upon court order. Permission to make disinterment not ordered by the court will be given upon written order by the plot owner, surviving wife or husband, legal age children, or parents of the deceased (in that order) provided such disinterment is not made for profit or other reasons considered improper by the Cemetery Committee.

- 7) No disinterment will be made until there is compliance with all State regulations (under section 517.23 of the Ohio Revised Code) and rules of the local Health authorities. Although we take great pride the quality of the interment of your loved one, St. Paul and the Cemetery Committee will not be responsible for vaults or caskets damaged during disinterment of a full body grave.

Markers and Monuments

- 8) A grave site may have only **one** head stone. Contact the church office to arrange for marking of the head stone base footprint.
- 9) In order to reduce sinking and shifting of head stones, all head stones must be placed on a **concrete or granite stone base** at ground level. The dimensions will vary depending on the type of head stone used and whether it is used on one or more adjacent grave sites. Generally, bases are greater in size (2 to 3 inches per side) than the head stone placed upon it.
- 10) The foundation base size for a head stone for a single grave site should be no greater than 36 inches (north to south) by no greater than 24 inches (east to west) by 6 inches thick.
- 11) The base size for a head stone shared by adjacent grave sites should be no greater than 60 inches (north to south) by no greater than 24 inches (east to west) by 6 inches thick.
- 12) **Markers** are generally flat stones that can be placed set slightly above the base that surrounds it.
- 13) **Monuments** are generally one or more tiered stones set upon a base. The base size should be larger than the largest tiered stone set upon it.
- a. **Exception:** Military markers are allowed on a burial site following the **Markers** rule stated above. If they are in addition to the **Markers or Monuments** stated above, they should be placed behind them (i.e., east) on the burial site.

Cemetery Rules for Visitors

- 14) No trees or shrubs can be planted in the cemetery.
- 15) **All flowers** must be placed in a container on the base or in the ground near the base. All such decorations shall be securely anchored in place to prevent the wind from removing or damaging the decoration and ruining the décor of the cemetery.
- 16) All artificial flowers will be removed from the cemetery by the **Saturday before Memorial Day** is observed.
- 17) All other flowers will be removed from the cemetery by **mid October**.
- 18) In order to maintain a neat appearance throughout, the Cemetery Committee shall remove funeral designs and floral pieces as soon as they become unattractive, and assumes no responsibility for their return. Unused cans, crockery, boxes, baskets, stuffed animals, or watering pots left on graves or plots are considered detrimental to the appearance of the cemetery, and will also be removed. The Cemetery Committee reserves the right to restrict unusual arrangements.
- 19) **No** vehicles are allowed in the cemetery except those vehicles directly related to a funeral burial. Maintenance vehicles will park on the side of Walnut Road and bring their maintenance equipment into the cemetery on foot. The short gravel driveway can also be used to unload maintenance equipment.