

Salem United Methodist Church Cemetery Rules & Regulations

Although there are many lots within the Salem United Methodist Cemetery that were deeded before the adoption of these Rules and Regulations, no lot, no party and no grantee shall be exempt from adhering to the Rules and Regulations promulgated by Salem United Methodist Church Cemetery Board. The Cemetery Board may, and it hereby expressly reserves the right, at any time, with notice to lot owners whose contact information has been provided to the Cemetery Board to adopt new rules and regulations or to amend, alter and/or repeal any rule, regulation and/or section or paragraph in these Rules and Regulations. These Rules and Regulations will be publicized on the Salem United Methodist Church website at <http://www.salemunitiedmethodist.org/>

Definitions

1. **Cemetery** constitutes land used or to be used for interment.
2. **Cemetery Board** is the committee approved by the Charge Conference of the Salem United Methodist Church to sell burial lots, maintain cemetery grounds, and set forth these Rules and Regulations.
3. **Contractor** is any person, firm, or corporation engaged in setting any vault or memorial, or performing any other work on the cemetery grounds, other than an employee of the cemetery.
4. **Cremains** are the ashes of a cremated corpse.
5. **Foundation** is defined as the in-ground base, usually a concrete beam, upon which a memorial is installed.
6. **Grave** is a space of ground in the cemetery used, or intended to be used, for the burial of human remains.
7. **Human Remains** are the body of a deceased person.
8. **Interment** is the burial of human remains or cremains in a grave.
9. **Lot** is a piece of property of sufficient size within the cemetery to be used for the burial of human remains.
10. **Marker** is a flat memorial made of granite and/or bronze placed level with the grade.
11. **Mausoleum** is a building with place for entombment of human remains above ground.
12. **Memorial** is a structure made of bronze, granite or marble used to identify a grave or graves. Memorials shall include monuments, tombstones, gravestones, markers, headstones or footstones.
13. **Memorial Attachment** is an object affixed to the memorial. Attachments shall include vases, photo plaques, ornamental and/or functional objects attached to the memorial by attractive, tasteful and practical means.
14. **Monument** is an upright memorial.
15. **Owner** is the person(s) to whom the cemetery has conveyed an internment right(s) or a person(s) who have acquired such right(s) by transfer in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the cemetery.

16. **Urn** is a container used for cremated human remains.
17. **Vault** is a lined and sealed concrete container that houses the casket.

Visitor Rules

1. No picnics, parties, weddings or other social events shall be allowed in the cemetery at any time.
2. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs shall be permitted.
3. No recreational activities such as ball games, kite flying, Frisbee or skateboarding shall be permitted.
4. Pets must be kept on leashes at all times, and pet owners must clean up any pet messes. No exotic pets shall be permitted.
5. The throwing of rubbish on any part of the grounds shall be strictly prohibited.
6. No person shall be permitted to use profane or boisterous language or in any way disturb the quiet and good order of the cemetery.
7. No surveillance cameras shall be permitted on cemetery property.
8. All visitors should respect the privacy of grieving families and other visitors, especially those who have a graveside ceremony in progress.

General Rules

1. The right of interment in a deeded lot shall belong to the owner(s) and/or heirs on record.
2. Sale or transfer of any lot or part of a lot shall be subject to approval of the Cemetery Board.
3. No burial shall take place until the purchase price, the grave opening fee, and all other applicable fees and charges have been paid in full.
4. Owner shall be required to notify the Cemetery Board at least 48 hours in advance of an interment and/or graveside ceremony.
5. No contractor shall be allowed to do any work within the cemetery for lot owners without the approval of the Cemetery Board.
6. The use of a concrete vault shall be required for casket burial and owner shall be responsible for the procurement of the vault.
7. A single lot may accommodate:
 - one vault (two if double-depth interment) or
 - one vault and one cremains urn or
 - a maximum of four cremains urns.
8. Double-depth interments shall be permitted provided that the double-depth interment is determined at the time of the first interment. Double-depth burials will not be guaranteed due to soil and unforeseen underground conditions as determined by the grave digger and the Cemetery Board.
9. If for any reason the grave for a proposed interment cannot be opened, the Cemetery Board may require a delay in the funeral. The Cemetery Board will use diligent efforts to

- resolve any delay or error in any interment as it deems best and proper under the circumstances and shall not be liable in damages for any such reasonable delay or error.
10. No lot shall be used for any other purpose than for burial of human remains or cremains.
 11. Scattering of cremains shall be strictly prohibited.

Memorial Rules

1. Memorial designs must be approved by the Cemetery Board prior to purchase from monument companies. Owner shall be responsible for providing a sketch that includes the dimensions, inscriptions, signs and symbols to the Cemetery Board for review.
2. The Cemetery Board shall have the authority to approve or reject any memorial design which, for reason of size, design, color, inscription, finish or quality of material that is, in the sole opinion of the Cemetery Board, unsuitable for a cemetery.
3. All monument companies and their workers must notify the Cemetery Board before any work shall be done by them in the cemetery.
4. Monument companies shall be required to meet with a Cemetery Board representative to mark the lot prior to installation of a memorial(s).
5. Only one monument may be placed per lot and must be installed at the head of the grave.
6. Memorials shall be of bronze, granite or marble composition, and shall be of standard commercial grade.
7. The length of the memorial base shall not exceed 36 inches for a single lot and/or shall not exceed 72 inches for a double lot. The height shall not exceed five feet, base included.
8. Non-English language inscriptions must be accompanied by an English translation of the inscription.
9. Any and all memorial attachments and extensions to monuments must be approved by the Cemetery Board.
10. Only one photo memorial plaque, maximum size of six by six inches, made of a durable material shall be permitted.
11. Absent gross negligence, the Cemetery Board shall not be responsible for loss or damage to installed memorials and/or attachments. In event of loss or damage, the installation of a replacement memorial and/or attachment, in whole or in part, shall be subject to approval by the Cemetery Board. The Cemetery Board reserves the right to remove any unapproved replacement memorials, and owner shall be liable for any and all costs of removal.
12. Breakable materials such as glass shall not be allowed on a memorial.
13. No fences shall be erected around burial lots.
14. No mausoleums shall be permitted.
15. All memorials must have a concrete foundation.

16. In the event it is necessary to temporarily move a memorial for an interment, the Cemetery Board shall have the right to move such memorial without notice to the owner. Cemetery staff shall expedite at no expense to the family the resetting of the memorial.
17. The Cemetery Board may, at its own expense, without any liability, correct any error that may occur as a result of a Cemetery Board member(s) or any other person(s) in the placement of a foundation or memorial in the cemetery.
18. Any non-gravestone memorials such as benches and sculptures shall be approved in advance by the Cemetery Board for both design and location.

Maintenance Rules

The maintenance policies listed below are displayed on a sign in the cemetery.

1. Artificial flowers are permitted but will be removed if they hinder grass mowing.
2. Small U.S. flags are permitted one week before and two weeks after Memorial Day and Veterans Day.
3. Planting of flowers, plants, or shrubs is not permitted.
4. Decorations such as stuffed animals, keepsakes, glass containers, and balloons are not permitted.
5. Absent gross negligence, the Cemetery Board is not responsible for loss of or damage to memorials.
6. No parking or trespassing before sunrise or after sunset.

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