

RULES GOVERNING THE USE OF THE CEMETERY OF  
ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Milan Township – Allen County – Indiana, Inc.

1.0 BURIAL PRIVILEGES

- 1.1 This cemetery is only for the burial of members and former members of St. Paul Lutheran Church (Milan Township).
- 1.2 Members of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church (Milan Township) who currently have reserved plots in the old cemetery that have no continuous monument foundation have the privilege of being buried in this cemetery at no cost.
- 1.3 All members of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church (Milan Township) have the privilege of being buried in this cemetery at a cost to be determined by the Cemetery Committee. (See Section 2.2)
- 1.4 Former members of St. Paul Lutheran Church (Milan Township) and their spouses who have moved away; who are members in good standing in a sister congregation, and who are not excommunicated or a member of a lodge; may upon approved request be buried in this cemetery at a cost determined by the Cemetery Committee. (See Section 2.3)
- 1.5 Former members who have a spouse buried in this cemetery are exempted from Section 1.4 provided that there is a monument in place.
- 1.6 No person who has been excommunicated by St. Paul Lutheran Church (Milan Township), who has been dropped from the rolls, who has joined another denomination, or who is a member of a lodge can be buried in this cemetery.
- 1.7 Called workers to St. Paul Lutheran Church and called workers to Central Lutheran School that were previous members of St. Paul that have faithfully carried out their ministry will have burial rights as if a member in good standing of St. Paul Lutheran Church. This grave site will be provided at no cost to the called worker.

2.0 THE RESERVATION OF GRAVE SITES

- 2.1 The reservation of grave sites is made through a written request and is subject to approval by the Board of Elders. The Cemetery Committee will then assign and record the location of the grave site.
- 2.2 Per section 1.3, the cost, to members, per grave site located on the continuous monument foundations in the new cemetery will be \$400.
- 2.3 The cost of grave sites for eligible non-members is 90% of the average of the cost of grave sites at Concordia Cemetery Gardens (Lake Ave., Ft. Wayne) and Odd Fellow Cemetery (Hartzell Rd., New Haven). [See Section 1.4]
- 2.4 Those reserving grave sites prior to the time of their death must erect a monument within one (1) year after the reservation has been approved.
- 2.5 Payment for the right of burial is to be made at the time of approval.

3.0 INTERMENT

- 3.1 The expenses for the opening and closing of a grave is the responsibility of the family of the deceased and is usually taken care of in the funeral arrangements by the funeral director; the actual opening and closing of graves will be handled by the Cemetery Committee.
- 3.2 A permanent concrete container (vault) will be used for all burials.
- 3.3 A permanent container will be used to enclose all cremated remains.

4.0 LANDSCAPE AND MONUMENT RULES

- 4.1 Planting of trees and shrubbery is not allowed in the grave site areas.
- 4.2 Shepherd hooks are not allowed.

- 4.3 Flowers, wreaths, and funeral designs shall be removed from the graves by the family of the deceased, or when they become unsightly, by the Cemetery Committee.
- 4.4 All summer decorations will be removed by November 1, and all Christmas or winter decorations will be removed by March 1.
- 4.5 Monuments should be erected within one (1) year after burial.
- 4.6 No curbing of any kind is permitted around the graves. All graves must be level.
- 4.7 Monuments and markers are to be of granite or bronze. All monuments are not to exceed 40 inches in overall height. The bases of all monuments are not to be less than 12 inches and no more than 16 inches in width. The length of a single grave monument base is not to exceed 40 inches; a double grave monument base is not to exceed 60 inches; and a triple grave monument base is not to exceed 72 inches.
- 4.8 Engraving of the names of the deceased will face the grave.
- 4.9 All text and special designs on monuments need to be submitted to the Cemetery Committee for approval.
- 4.10 Military markers are to be attached to the back of monuments and should be bronze. Granite military markers are not accepted.
- 4.11 Urns or vases are to be placed on the footer or base of the monument.
- 4.12 Glass and ceramic decorations are not allowed.

## 5.0 THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The Cemetery Committee shall consist of two (2) appointed members of the congregation and one (1) of the trustees of the congregation. The term of the appointed members shall be two (2) years each on a rotating basis. The appointed committee members may be reappointed for consecutive terms. The trustee serving on this committee will be selected by the board of trustees of this congregation.

## 6.0 DUTIES OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE

- 6.1 Supervise the total administration and operation of the cemetery.
- 6.2 Keep a current plot-plan of the cemetery, showing all occupied and reserved graves.
- 6.3 See that all graves located by continuous monument foundations are assigned in sequence.
- 6.4 Arrange with the families of the deceased for the placement of the graves.
- 6.5 Inform all those eligible who are reserving grave sites the location of their grave site.
- 6.6 Receive all payments for graves. This money is to be turned over to the congregational financial secretary to be deposited in the general fund of St. Paul Lutheran Church.
- 6.7 Stake the outline of the grave before the funeral, to show exactly where the grave is to be dug.
- 6.8 Coordinate the opening and closing of the grave.
- 6.9 After a reasonable time, level dirt on grave and seed.
- 6.10 Observe that all monuments are placed in a straight line.
- 6.11 Straighten and repair old monuments. Fill in sunken graves.
- 6.12 All excess dirt removed from the grave, after closing, shall be taken to a place designated by the Cemetery Committee.