

## **CEMETERY GUIDELINES**

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The cemetery of Friendship Lutheran Church (located on the west side of Church Road) is intended to be a place where the members of this congregation can be laid to rest and honored by future generations. To help ensure that the cemetery is a place where members and guests can honor loved ones in safety and comfort, certain guidelines must be followed.

### **DEF OF MEMBER**

For the purpose of these guidelines, a “member” shall be defined as a voting member according to the current constitution of Friendship Lutheran Church.

### **GENERAL RULES/GUIDELINES:**

- Grave plot assignments are to be overseen by the cemetery committee.
- Only members, spouses of members, and dependent children of members may be buried in the church cemetery.
- No grave shall be dug by anyone until it has been cleared by the committee and/or sexton.
- Wherever possible, the digging of graves on Sunday should be avoided. No grave will be dug during church services under any circumstances.
- All graves shall be lined with a vault.
- All excess dirt must be placed according to directions from the Sexton.
- Reasonable steps should be taken when placing dirt back into grave to keep settling and sinking to a minimum. Grass should be taken up and placed back even with the ground.
- No grave should be left open longer than necessary. No grave shall be left open overnight under any circumstances.
- Vehicles are prohibited in the cemetery except by special permission.
- Any damage to grass, markers, or any property in the cemetery must be restored to its original condition by the responsible party.
- Monuments placed in the church cemetery shall be in good taste and consistent with the ministry and teachings of Friendship Lutheran Church.
- No monument will be placed in the cemetery until it has been cleared with the committee and/or sexton.
- All monuments must have a concrete base, extending not less than 6 inches wide and 3 inches deep on all sides (finished smooth and flush with the ground).
- Flowers and other decorations will be removed from the cemetery after they have become faded, dirty, or unattractive. Containers and other items will also be removed when not in use.
- The use of decorations that extend beyond the concrete base shall be prohibited.
- All who have occasion to use the cemetery shall conduct themselves in a manner that shows respect to the departed and their families.
- The sexton shall have full authority to enforce these regulations.
- Friendship Lutheran Church shall have the authority to remove or repair any monument or other item which represents a hazard or detriment to the cemetery.