

St. John's UCC Cemetery

Cottleville, Missouri

Rules and Regulations

The St. John's Cemetery is a perpetual care cemetery operating under the auspices of St. John's United Church of Christ, 945 Wolfrum Road, Weldon Spring, Missouri, and is managed in accordance with the by-laws of said church. All funds designated for the cemetery shall be held separate and apart from other church funds and used exclusively for the operation and benefit of the cemetery.

The following rules and regulations are intended to serve as guidelines that will assure and sustain an appropriately tranquil and reverent environment for the interred remains of deceased members and friends of the church congregation. Additions and amendments to these rules may be made by application to the Cemetery Committee and with approval of the Church Council.

Section I

Hours: The cemetery grounds shall be open from dawn until dusk. The cemetery is private property. Unauthorized persons trespassing on cemetery property after dark, will be subject to prosecution. Any activities that are disruptive to the peaceful atmosphere or that might damage the appearance of the cemetery are not permitted.

Section II

Care and Maintenance: St. John's Church intends to provide a perpetual care program which shall include mowing and trimming of cemetery grounds. No flowers, trees, or shrubs shall be planted except under the supervision and with the approval of the Cemetery Committee. Repair or replacement of gravestones which have become damaged or displaced due to vandalism or natural causes shall be the responsibility of the deed holder to the gravesite except that in the event such person or persons are unavailable, repairs may be made by other authorized concerned parties.

Section III

Sale of Cemetery Lots: The purchase of a cemetery lot in St. John's Cemetery authorizes the deed holder the Right to Inter human remains within the lot boundaries. Title to the real estate remains with the church. No other rights are granted and ownership is subject to conditions and restrictions imposed by rules now in effect or that may hereafter be adopted by the Cemetery Committee and approved by the Church Council. Cemetery lots are sold as double lots allowing for two gravesites side by side: (refer to Section VI). Prices for cemetery lots are established by the church and may be adjusted from time to time as conditions warrant. The church will issue a deed as evidence of ownership when all monies due for the lot purchase have been paid in full, and will retain permanent records of such ownership and interments therein.

Section IV

Resale or Transfer of Cemetery Lots: The owner of an unused cemetery lot may transfer but not resell their interest to another person or persons. Proof of such interest must be established in the form of a deed which shall be surrendered and a new deed issued to affect the transfer to the new owner. At that time, church records will be amended to reflect the change of interest. Additionally, the owner of an unused cemetery lot may apply to the Cemetery Committee to return the deed to the church for a refund not to exceed the original price paid for the lot.

Section V

Monuments and Grave Markers: All graves at St. John's Cemetery require some form of permanent marker. The church recognizes the historical significance of each burial and therefore desire that each monument or grave marker be securely situated to assure maximum longevity. Accordingly, all must be placed on concrete foundations extending an adequate depth into the ground to guarantee stability. All monuments must be erected within lot boundaries at the head or the grave, and in alignment with existing headstones. However, Federal Government markers for veterans may be placed flush with the ground at the foot of the grave.

Lot owners should contact church cemetery officials prior to installation for guidance on proper placement. Monuments or grave markers that do not comply with the preceding guidelines may be repositioned by church authorities. To facilitate maintenance of the grounds, it is recommended that vases be attached to base markers.

Section VI

Burials: Arrangements for opening of graves should be made through a funeral director who will contact the chairman of the Cemetery Committee or the church office. All burials in St. John's Cemetery require an interment order signed by the legal holder of the deed to the site or an authorized representative. These forms are available in the church office. Full burials require a cemetery vault or a grave liner fabricated of sufficiently rigid material to resist the collapse of the surrounding ground. The material used will be left to the sound judgment of persons concerned.

Burial in a single gravesite are permitted as follows:

- a. Burial of caskets (outer vault or liner required): One per gravesite/two per lot.
- b. Cremation urns: Up to four per gravesite.
- c. Combinations: One casket (outer vault or liner required) and one cremation urn or one casket (outer vault or liner required) and one infant casket per gravesite.