Cemetery Policy

GENERAL REGULATIONS:

The following rules and regulations governing the cemetery of Center Grove United Methodist Church supersede all previous motions, amendments, rules and regulations. This collection of rules governs cemetery operations effective 1 June 2010 forward and does not negate prior arrangements, purchases, or contracts.

1. A Member of the church shall be appointed by the Church Council as a representative of the church to sell cemetery lots or spaces to members of the above mentioned church and to keep records of such transactions as well as the locations of purchased spaces or lots. This representative will report directly to the Church Council.
2. Two copies of burial locations shall be kept at all times. One shall be kept by the representativeappointed by the Church Council to sell cemetery spaces or lots and one shall be kept in church office.
3. The Cemetery Representative and or the Church Council Chair must be consulted before a grave is opened. All financial obligations must be met before permission is given to open a grave.
4. Said representative is not responsible for digging or supervising the digging of the grave.
5. No grave shall be less than five (5) feet deep unless authorized by the representative. Any person using heavy equipment and damaging grounds shall be liable for such damage. Any cost associated with failure to meet county and state codes will be the responsibility of the Leasee.
6. The representative must be consulted before a monument is erected on any grave.
	1. Funeral name markers that are installed at the grave when the grave site is used will be removed by the family when the monument is installed.
	2. Headstones and grave markers are the responsibility of those leasing the cemetery lot. Expenses incurred from damages remain their responsibility. Repairs must be made under the supervision of the cemetery representative. Permission must be received from the representative prior to erecting a headstone or grave marker.
	3. A six inch (6”) base is to be placed around all head stones.
	4. Decorations and flowers may be removed from the cemetery at the discretion of the church if appropriate appearance is not maintained.
	5. No shrubbery is to be placed in the cemetery.
	6. Footstones must be placed flush with the ground.
	7. No coping is to be placed around plots.
7. Church members on active membership roll at Center Grove United Methodist Church may receive one lot per individual for burial during time of membership. For non-members, the present purchase price $1000 per lot. The price of grave lots will be established annually.
	1. Those not on the membership role of the church or associated with the church through frequent attendance are not permitted burial in the Center Grove United Methodist Church cemetery unless special circumstances exist and approval of the church council is received.
	2. It is understood that previous records may have been displaced or destroyed. Those presenting evidence of prior agreement for burial or purchase will be afforded such rights.
8. Any grave space previously purchased and not used may not be transferred to any other person through a will, gift, bequeath, or other means. These spaces or lots shall revert to the church, and the original purchase price or credit will be refunded to the estate at their request. Persons who no longer attend services at Center Grove United Methodist Church or have moved their membership will be required to transfer the unused lot back to the church and receive reimbursement of the original purchase price if applicable.
9. Any current/former pastor and/or spouse will be given free grave sites at time of death, if space is available

1. Any United Methodist minister who was a member of Center Grove United Methodist Church at the time of entering the ministry and who remains in the United Methodist ministry until death or retirement, will be given free burial space for him/herself, spouse and dependent children (18 years and under), if space is available.