

Pierce Chapel United Methodist Church  
Cemetery Regulations  
1999

1. Permission for digging a grave must be secured by the funeral home from a member of the Cemetery Committee. Graves must be dug not less than 48 inches deep and must meet all state regulations. All excess dirt must be removed from the cemetery property at the time the grave is dug.
2. The Pierce Chapel United Methodist Church will neither be responsible for personal injury sustained while on the cemetery grounds, nor responsible for loss or damage to any article placed or left at any lot, grave, or other part of the cemetery.
3. Notwithstanding the desire to accommodate all church member requests for grave plots, nothing in these regulations shall be interpreted to mean that a Pierce Chapel member has any right, legal or otherwise, to a grave plot in the Pierce Chapel Cemetery. In the event that there are insufficient grave lots to accommodate the requests of Pierce Chapel member families, then the Cemetery Committee will determine in its sole discretion which requests can be met and which requests cannot be met. In making such determination, the Cemetery Committee members may, but are not required to, consider the financial and other circumstances of the members making their requests for grave plots.
4. The old section of the Pierce Chapel Cemetery is closed for use except for established and clearly marked plots.
5. Lots in the new section of the Pierce Chapel Cemetery shall only be available for members of the Pierce Chapel United Methodist Church and their immediate family ("immediate family" is hereby defined as husband, wife, and first generation children). If the first generation child is not a current member of Pierce Chapel, the child and his/her spouse may be buried in the family's four-grave plot.
6. Persons desiring to place fresh cut flowers or artificial arrangements on established graves shall remove them before they become unsightly; otherwise, the caretaker will remove them without notice. It is recommended that expensive vases, baskets, or containers not be placed on the lots, since they are easily broken or stolen. The discarding of empty cans, flower pots or vases, decaying flowers and plants, or rubbish of any kind in the cemetery grounds is strictly prohibited.
7. Each Pierce Chapel family is entitled to one four-grave plot, as space is available. Should more space be needed by a family, a request may be made through the Cemetery Committee. Should it become apparent that a portion of a given plot will not or cannot be used, the remaining space or spaces shall revert back to the Church. The Cemetery Committee shall have the authority to request unused space in a plot when reasonable evidence is present indicating that spaces will remain unused.
8. Any ordained United Methodist minister who has pastored at Pierce Chapel, and his/her immediate family ("immediate family" is hereby defined as husband, wife, and first generation children) is entitled to be buried in the Pierce Chapel Cemetery. If the first generation child is not a current member of Pierce Chapel, the child and his/her spouse may be buried in the family's four-grave plot.
9. No new enclosure of any nature, such as fences, copings, hedges, ditches, flower beds or other means of marking grave or lot boundaries, shall be used. Corner stones may be used but must be set even with the surface of the ground.

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10. No trees, shrubs, plants, or flowers may be planted. Any one desiring to plant grass in their own lots may do so at their own expense.
11. Grave mounds shall not be allowed. No part of any lot or grave shall be raised above the established grade.
12. All slabs shall be of marble or granite and shall be set flush with the lot surface. It is the responsibility of the family to insure that the slab is installed to meet this regulation.
13. To insure the beauty of the cemetery and to facilitate the upkeep of the grounds, the Cemetery Committee recommends that bronze markers, either single or double, made of the finest cast bronze, with disappearing vase, be used and set flush with the ground. It is the responsibility of the family to insure that the markers(s) is installed to meet this regulation.
14. Only one interment shall be made in a grave except in the case of a mother and infant, or two children in one casket.
15. No disinterment shall be made, except with the consent of the Cemetery Committee, upon written permission of the lot owner, the consent of the next of kin, and in the presence of a licensed funeral director.
16. In the event that a body is removed from a single grave, the lot shall revert to the Church.
17. Dealer's or manufacturer's cards or advertisement shall not be cut or marked on any stone or slab, or placed anywhere within the cemetery enclosure.