

Cemetery Policy
Union Baptist Church
Adopted May 9th 2016

- A. General Guidelines on who is eligible to be interred in the cemetery of Union Baptist Church.
1. All active members of Union Baptist Church, their spouses and minor children are eligible for burial plots at no cost.
 2. Inactive Members can purchase burial plots at the cost of \$750 per space.
 3. Non-Members can purchase burial plots at the cost of \$1250 per space.

An active member is defined as someone who, at the time of death, meets two out of three of the following conditions:

- i. On the church roll
 - ii. Attending church regularly unless hindered by physical reasons.
 - iii. Making regular financial contributions to the church.
4. Inactive members and non-members with some connection to the church are eligible to purchase burial plots.

An inactive member is defined as someone who, at the time of death, is

- i. On the church roll
- ii. Seldom or never attends church
- iii. Not making regular financial contributions to the church

A non-member with some connection to the church is defined as someone who, at the time of death, is not on the church roll but meets one or more of the following requirements:

- i. Is an immediate family member (spouse, parent, sibling, minor or adult Child) of someone on the church roll.
 - ii. Is an immediate family member (spouse, parent, sibling, minor or adult Child) of someone who is buried in our cemetery.
 - iii. Is a former member of Union Baptist Church.
5. Active Church members may express a preference for specific burial plots. However the following conditions apply:
- i. All plots remain the property of Union Baptist Church. No one has the right to sell or otherwise assign a plot to someone else.
 - ii. Members are not reserving a plot, but expressing a preference. Every effort will be made to comply with the preference request.

- iii. Coping and other markers may be placed before interment with the permission of the Cemetery Committee.
 - iv. Should the family become inactive their plot preferences may be reassigned.
 6. Although the church will make every effort to allow family members to be interred together, for space management reasons inactive members, and non-members, with some connection to the church may not express a preference for specific burial plots.
 - i. The only exception to this rule is for spouses of people interred in the cemetery.
 - ii. Inactive members and non-members with some connection to the church who expressed a preference for a specific burial plot before this policy goes into effect are nevertheless subject to the policy and should not assume that their preference request will be preserved or honored.
 7. Provisions for Cremains shall be:
 - a. Interment: Plots for the interment of cremains shall be available under the same guidelines as other burial plots.
 - b. Scattering on church property: Individuals may choose to have cremains scattered on Union Baptist Church cemetery property. This process will be at the discretion of the Cemetery Committee and/or the Deacon board to determine the specific location.
 8. Cemetery Committee shall have oversight of the church cemetery and shall keep an accurate plot map indicating church member's preference.

B. Other Guidelines for Cemetery Use

1. All monuments placed in the Union Baptist Cemetery shall not reflect symbolism or text contrary to The Bible, God the Father, God the Son, or the Holy Spirit.
2. A monument shall be limited to:
 - a. 4 feet in height from ground level
 - b. Width is limited to the burial plot size leaving 18 inches on each side of the monument. Some common examples would be:
 - i. Single Space, 2 feet
 - ii. Two spaces, 8 feet
 - c. Depth is limited to 18 inches
3. The Cemetery Committee shall oversee this policy including maintaining the cemetery plot map.
4. Plots for cremains will be 3' x 3.' As many as four individuals may be interred in a single plot.
5. Grave plots will be no more than 5' x 10' including coping.
6. All flowers and grave decorations must be limited to the headstones.
7. If flowers and grave decorations become unsightly or interferes with Cemetery maintenance they will be removed.
8. The church is not responsible for repair or maintenance of markers.

9. Family members are encouraged to remove dead/faded flowers, stands, pots, etc. from graves. Care should be taken to ensure that flowers and other objects do not prevent groundskeepers from having access to graves.
10. Coping may only be placed around gravesites upon approval of the Cemetery Committee and/or the Deacon Board. Coping shall not be placed around unused plots without the permission of the Cemetery Committee and/or the Deacon Board.
11. Fences or barriers of any type construction may not be erected in the cemetery. Fences and barriers in existence before the adoption of this policy are exempt from this policy.
12. Any requested exceptions to this policy will be decided by a majority vote of the Cemetery Committee and/or the Deacon Board.
13. The Deacon Board of Union Baptist Church upon request from the Cemetery Committee has full authority to change or modify these guidelines as they see fit. However they are required to gain approval from the Church Membership at the next scheduled Church business meeting.