Cemetery Rules and Regulations

Immanuel Lutheran Church Frankentrost

8220 E. Holland Rd.

Saginaw, MI. 48601

The Immanuel Lutheran Church of Frankentrost Cemetery, Immanuel St. John's, constitutes all sold and unsold portions of St. John's Cemetery located at 1700 S. Beyer Road, in Blumfield Township, MI.

All lots sold prior to January 1, 2023, will be grandfathered in under St. John's existing rules and regulations.

1. Our cemetery may be used only for the burial of such persons to whom a Christian burial can be granted, and at which the pastor of our congregation or his substitute or the pastor of a sister congregation can officiate.
2. Every communicant member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Frankentrost is entitled to purchase a burial lot.
3. Non-members are not to be buried in our cemetery. There are however exceptions to this rule.
    a. Members of a family to whom a burial lot has been allotted prior to their transfer from our congregation and who at such time of transfer have received such burial rights from the congregation. Special cases are to be left to the discretion of the cemetery board and pastor(s). NOTE: A list of all non-members granted burial privileges shall be kept in the church office. The cemetery board is responsible for reporting to the church office any additions or deletions to this list.
    b. Spouses of living or deceased members and their single children may be buried in our cemetery provided that they are active members of a Christian congregation and have requested and been granted burial rights.
    c. Pastors and called teachers and their spouses who have gone forth from this congregation and those pastors and called teachers who have served this congregation are entitled to purchase a burial lot.
4. Our cemetery is arranged in single plots, 4'x 8'. The supervision is vested in the cemetery board, subject to rules and regulations laid down by the congregation.
5. A lot may be used in the following ways:
    a. One adult internment.
    b. Two inurnments with urn vaults.
    c. Up to two infant internments.
6. The title to the property and every portion of the cemetery thereof will remain the property of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Frankentrost. The purchaser of a burial lot

shall receive a certificate of burial right that will entitle that person to the privilege of burial on the purchased lot. It shall be the duty of the cemetery board to assign lots as needed.

7. Before any burial can take place in our cemetery, the chairman of our cemetery board must be notified, and a copy of the rules and regulations shall be delivered to the family of the deceased.
8. Monument regulations:
    a. Inscriptions on monuments that are not in keeping with our Lutheran faith are not permitted. All monuments are to be placed at the head of the grave and shall not exceed a measurement of 24" from front to back, 40" wide, or 36" in height from the grade level.
    b. The concrete foundation will be provided by the cemetery at the expense of the family or designee, but the headstone must be delivered and installed on the concrete foundation by the family, designee, or manufacturer.
    c. The concrete foundation will need to stay within the width of the lot.
    d. The concrete foundation will cost ($0.50) per square inch.
    e. The concrete foundation will extend a minimum of 3 inches on each side of the headstone with a nominal thickness of 3-1/2".
    f. The front of the headstone is to face Beyer Road.
9. All lot holders are required to keep the lot clean and in good order. In case the lot holder is neglectful they are to be reminded of their cemetery duties by the cemetery board.
10. Trees may not be planted in the cemetery. Long-standing bushes or shrubs that do not add to the beauty of a lot, but on the contrary, are hanging over and covering up a neighbor's grave, giving the cemetery a neglected appearance, are to be removed by the cemetery board. Henceforth, the planting of shrubs, bushes, etc., is not to be done without the permission of the cemetery board. All flowers that are placed on a grave are to be free-standing.
    a. All flowers, including artificial, will be permitted from March 15 until October 15.
    b. Grave blankets and wreaths will be permitted from November 1 until April 1.
    c. Removal of all seasonal decorations is the sole responsibility of the family or designee.
    d. The cemetery board reserves the right to maintain the grounds in a reasonable manner.
11. Everyone is requested to dispose of items listed in article 10 along with any other rubbish off the cemetery property. All lot holders are to act in accordance with these rules. The same being subject to change as the congregation may see fit. The congregation will appreciate your efforts to keep family lots looking neat and clean.

12. The cemetery board shall consist of a board of four members: a cemetery chairman, secretary, treasurer, and assistant treasurer. All are elected by ballot by the congregation to four-year terms. (And one member of the trustee committee)

    The cemetery board shall at the first meeting of the year select a chairman, review the cemetery rules and regulations, and acquaint the newly elected board members with the duties, procedures, and operation of the cemetery board. The chairman shall call a minimum of one meeting per quarter.

    With respect to the cemetery treasurer and assistant cemetery treasurer, their terms shall be staggered to allow the assistant treasurer to serve as the assistant for the first two years of the term, and as treasurer for the last two years of the term. In essence, the congregation will elect an assistant treasurer every two years. The cemetery treasurer shall have the authority to approve cemetery expenses and be responsible for filling out vouchers to be forwarded to the church treasurer. The assistant cemetery treasurer will assume this authority and responsibility if the cemetery treasurer is unavailable.

    The cemetery's primary source of operational revenue will be the Cemetery Fund. The cemetery treasurer has the responsibility to report to the voter's assembly the year-end numbers for the prior year, including the baseline amount, the value of the fund, and the payout amount. The cemetery assistant treasurer will assume this authority and responsibility if the cemetery treasurer is unable.

13. The sexton shall receive such compensation for material and labor as shall be determined by the cemetery board.
14. Graves are to be dug under the supervision of a member of the cemetery board. The cost of digging a grave is borne by the family of the deceased.
    a. It shall be the duty of the cemetery board to assign lots as needed or when a death occurs in a family within the congregation and at the time of making such assignments, the board shall advise the family of the cemetery policies and perpetual care payment regulations.
    b. In the interest of good stewardship, lots or portions of lots that are not likely to be used by a family shall be reassigned at the discretion of the cemetery board. This will be done so that the fullest use possible can be made of our cemetery space.
    c. Requests for funds for special improvement or expenditures shall be brought to the Board of Trustees by the cemetery board.
    d. It shall be the duty of the cemetery board to preserve order, improve, and beautify the grounds of the cemetery.

e. The actions of the cemetery board shall be subject to review by the congregation.

15. Perpetual care of a lot is required and assured for those who pay into the Cemetery Fund the sum of $1,000.00 per grave for members; $1,500.00 per grave for non-members. This fee is to be paid when the lot is assigned. The collection, recording, and prompt disbursement of these monies to the Cemetery Fund shall be the responsibility of the cemetery treasurer and the assistant cemetery treasurer. The monies deposited in the Cemetery Fund shall be managed in accordance with the investment policy adopted by the Board of Trustees and cemetery committee. The payout from the Cemetery Fund is to be used for the care, upkeep, improvement of the cemetery, and preservation of the Cemetery Fund. In exceptional cases, the cemetery board may waive all or part of the payment to the Cemetery Fund. In case of refusal and/or neglect of payment into the Cemetery Fund, or for care, the cemetery board shall file a claim for said monies from the estate of the deceased or heirs.
16. All expenditures shall be approved by the cemetery treasurer or the assistant cemetery treasurer.
17. If for any reason it should become necessary or expedient to eliminate the Cemetery Fund, the principal sum of all money shall remain the property of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Frankentrost, Saginaw, MI.
18. All cemetery funds are to be allocated as follows:
    a. 75% into trust fund
    b. 25% into perpetual care fund