

**Rules and Regulations**  
**Governing Funerals and Burials In The**  
**King Moravian Church Graveyard**  
**King Moravian Church**  
**Approved: Graveyard Committee & Joint Boards**  
November 1, 2022

**Article I - The Funeral Service**

1. Funeral services may begin in the Church Sanctuary, and then move to God's Acre or may be a graveside service only. A Moravian Minister must preside at the funeral, but ministers of other denominations and laypersons may assist in the services provided that they are approved by the pastor. In special circumstances or requests, the Board of Elders will be consulted. Fraternal, Veterans, and/or other organizations may be included, with the approval and instructions of the King Moravian Pastor, or in his absence, a representative of the Graveyard Committee.
2. It is appropriate for a band and/or choir to be included in the service.
3. No service may be held in the Graveyard on the Saturday before Easter, Easter Sunday, or Christmas Day.

**Article II - The Graveyard Committee**

1. The Graveyard Committee shall consist of 5 - (5) - voting members who are appointed by the Joint Boards. Appointment is for "life" unless circumstances dictate replacement. Replacement to the Graveyard Committee must be approved by the Joint Boards.
  - a) The Pastor is a voting member and the Church Office Administrator is an ex-officio non-voting member.
  - b) The Committee shall elect its own Chairman.
2. In consultation with the family, it shall be the duty of the Graveyard Committee Chairman to select the burial site.
  - a) The committee will also see that all graves are properly turfed, and that a slab and gravestone are put in place within six (6) months of the interment.
3. The Committee Chairman or appointee shall give permission for interments.
  - a) Said permission must be obtained by the funeral director prior to the opening of any grave.
  - b) All requirements must be met prior to permission being granted.
4. The Committee may use funds from designated Graveyard Funds for the care, maintenance, general upkeep, etc. of the graveyard.
  - a) The committee may spend for a single purpose up to \$5,000 either from designated funds or funds approved by the Trustees.
  - b) Graveyard enlargement, redesigns, changes and/or additions must be approved by the Joint Board after approval and recommendation from the Graveyard Committee.
5. The Committee will conduct meetings for the proper execution of its duties.
  - a) Minutes of these meetings shall be maintained in the church office and may be inspected by members of the Joint Board and the Congregation.
6. The Committee may choose to make a report to the Congregation at its annual meeting.

### **Article III - Requisites for Interment**

Interment in the King Moravian Church Graveyard is permitted provided the following requisites are followed:

1. To be buried with a **fee of \$200** for the grave site:
  - a) Members of King Moravian Church, their husband/wife and all natural or legally adopted children who have not reached the age of 21, or who have not transferred membership to another church. Additional charges for stones and slabs.
2. Non-members of King Moravian Church who have an immediate family member (father, mother, children) buried in our graveyard – there will be a **fee of \$7,500.00** for a full-size grave and a **fee of \$2,000.00** for a cremains grave. Additional charges for stones and slabs.

If the Graveyard Committee cannot make a determination as to burial charge, the Joint Boards shall have final authority.

3. Associate members can be buried at **half the cost** of a non-member provided you are in good standing with King Moravian Church per guidelines. Additional charges for stones and slabs.
4. Moravian Pastors and their spouses **buried at no charge**.

### **Article IV - The Plot System**

1. No family plots are permitted in the Graveyard unless approved by the Graveyard Committee. Agreement includes prepaid plots, slabs, and headstones. The Graveyard Committee is responsible for assigning plots and recorded by King Moravian Church Office Administrator.

### **Article V - Funeral Directors**

1. In addition to items covered under The Graveyard Committee, the Funeral Director and/or his appointees shall be responsible for any damage to existing graves, stones and slabs.
2. The Funeral Director(s) will make all provisions for opening and closing the grave and will include cost in its bill to the family.
3. The canopy (tent) and all flowers should be removed within five (5) days after the funeral service.

### **Article VI - The Methods of Interment and Records**

1. Interment in the Graveyard may be done by either of two methods:
  - a) Interment of the body in a suitable coffin in a metal, concrete, or asphalt vault.
  - b) Interment of the ashes of a cremation in a suitable container.
2. Records of every interment shall be kept in the Book of Record in the church office, with a record also sent to the Moravian Archives. Administrative Assistant is responsible for maintaining records.

**Article VII - Re-interments, Disinterment and Removals**

1. No disinterment or removal of remains shall be allowed without written permission of the Graveyard Committee and notarized by the spouse of the deceased, or the next of kin. In the case of a child, request may be made by a parent or guardian.
2. A disinterment permit must be obtained from the Chairman in addition to:
  - a) All state and local laws must be followed.
  - b) In no case shall the burial fee previously paid be refunded.
  - c) All costs of the disinterment will be paid by the family prior to disinterment.
3. In order to preserve the chronological order of burial, the grave site shall not be reused. A slab and a marker indicating that the space is "VACANT" shall be placed within six (6) months. The marker will be paid by the family of the one removed, before disinterment.

**Article VIII - Requisites for Gravestones - Sizes and Fees**

1. All gravestones shall be white marble and shall be laying flat. All inscriptions shall be in plain character and in keeping with Moravian standards.
2. The stone shall be so lettered that the longest dimension of the stone shall be lengthwise with the grave.

	<u>STONES</u>	<u>SLABS</u>
For six (6)-foot graves	20 X 24 X 4 inches	28 X 32 X 2 inches
For Cremains containers	12 X 12 X 3 inches	14 X 14 X 2 inches

Any and all fees must be paid to Treasurer of King Moravian prior to the opening of a grave.

If a deposit for gravestones, lettering and slabs are to be charged (subject to change by the Graveyard Committee and Trustees) payment to Treasurer prior to ordering.

**Article IX - Visitors to the Graveyard and Decorations**

1. Visitors to the Graveyard must conduct themselves in a reverent manner.
  - a) Loafing and boisterous conduct will not be tolerated.
  - b) No bicycles, skating, skate boards, motor vehicles (except vehicles used to maintain the graveyard, or in funerals) are permitted.
2. Flowers may be placed on graves to observe special events in the life of the deceased at any time
  - a) The use of plastic or artificial flowers is accepted
  - b) Sunken vases, pots or permanent containers are not permitted.
  - c) Flowers should be removed within seven days of the funeral service by family members so maintenance may proceed unencumbered. Wooden or metal pins (i.e., coat hanger wire) used to secure receptacles should be removed with the flowers for safety reasons.
  - d) No artificial lighting allowed.
  - e) Flowers placement must be on headstone or slab – should not be placed in the grass that would interfere with grounds maintenance.
3. Any item placed in the graveyard in memory of someone shall be approved by the Graveyard Committee and no name plates will be affixed to them.

**Article X - Graveyard Endowment Fund**

Families and friends are encouraged to make contributions to the Graveyard Endowment Funds – either Pulliam or Boyles. These designated funds are held in trust to perform routine maintenance and capital improvements as deemed by the Graveyard Committee.

**Article XI - Changes**

Changes, additions and alterations to the Rules and Regulations can be made by the Graveyard Committee and the Joint Board.

These regulations replace all previously approved rules and regulations.

**Approved: King Moravian Church Graveyard Committee  
Board of Elders  
Board of Trustees**

**November 1, 2022**