

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH CEMETERY POLICIES

Purpose

The purpose of St. David's Cemetery is to provide an appropriate, consecrated, and perpetually maintained place for the interment of remains of those persons eligible to be buried in this place.

Policy Determination

The Vestry is responsible for the determination of cemetery policies. The Cemetery Committee makes recommendations on policy to the Vestry for consideration and adoption.

Eligibility for Burial

“Episcopalians of the area and others who have given active support to either St. David's or St. John's.” Vestry minutes of 4/16/64.

The following considerations should govern assignment priorities:

- A. closeness of ties with St. David's community. (Though confirmed membership is not an absolute requirement it should weigh heavily on assignment decisions)
- B. Past duration and probability of future continuance of church association.
- C. Descendants of founders (Davies/Cox)

Application For Plot

Application for assignment of a burial plot may be made at any time. Applications are available at the Rector's office or from the Chair of the Cemetery Committee. The completed application must be returned to the Chair of the Cemetery Committee at least five days prior to a scheduled vestry meeting. Under normal circumstances the application will be considered at the next monthly scheduled vestry meeting. The Vestry's decision is final and applicant will be notified within ten days of the Vestry meeting of the acceptance or denial of the application. **In unusual situations this process can be accelerated.**

Plot Fees

Burial Plot (14' x 12') \$1000
Cremains Plot (3' x 2.5') \$400

Plot fees must be paid when assignment of a plot is granted. In the event of financial hardship the Vestry may waive the fee. Plot fees are added to the Cemetery Fund Endowment

Plot Transfers and repurchases

Plots cannot be transferred. Only the person or persons named in the request section of the application can be buried in the plot assigned.

Plots may be repurchased by the Vestry but only under the following conditions:

- (1) There have been no internments in the plot.
- (2) Each of the persons named in the request section of the Application for Burial, who are living, attest in writing with a notarized signature that they wish to surrender the plot.
- (3) A death certificate is provided for each of the persons named in the request section of the Application for Burial who have died.
- (4) The person or persons representing the deceased attest in writing with a notarized signature, that they are authorized to represent the deceased and that they wish to surrender the plot.
- (5) All attestations include the plot number.
- (6) The Vestry agrees to the repurchase.

100% of the plot fee paid will be refunded in the case of a repurchase.

Plot Ownership

Assignment of a plot within the cemetery does not constitute a sale of property. Land ownership remains with The Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina.

Plot Excavation Costs

The family or their designated representative must pay for excavation.

Burials

A. In-ground vaults are prohibited

B. Above ground vaults are prohibited

Grave Markers

Burial Plots (12' x 14'; 12' x 16'; 16' x 16')

Vertical markers and markers that lie flat on the ground are allowed. Markers must not be closer than 6" to any edge of the plot. St. David's does not make arrangements for markers.

Cremains Plots (3'x2. 5')

Only Grass (also known as Flush, Flat) grave markers are permitted. Grave markers must be at least 1" thick to accommodate the weight of mowing equipment. Markers must not be closer than 3" to any edge of the plot. St. David's does not make arrangements for markers.

Memorial Plaque

There is a memorial Plaque for the names of deceased whose cremains are buried in St. David's cemetery. Use of this plaque is optional Bronze nameplates are 1" by 6". Installation of the nameplate is the responsibility of the family.

Maintenance

St. David's Church is responsible for the upkeep of the cemetery. There are endowment funds dedicated to cemetery maintenance.

Burial Service

Assignment of a plot does not convey a right to hold a burial service either in the cemetery or the church. Burial service arrangements are to be made with the Rector of St. David's Episcopal Church. **No Burial services may take place in the cemetery or the church without the express approval of the Rector of St. David's Episcopal Church.** The Burial Service will be as prescribed by the Rector of St. David's Episcopal Church in consultation with the family of the deceased, and in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Book of Common Prayer.

If the Rector is unavailable and time is of the essence, the Senior Warden or his or her designee may give approval for a burial service.

Flowers and Other Memorabilia

Natural flowers, plants and wreaths are allowed in the cemetery. They will be removed, without notice, by the vestry if/when they become unsightly. All other memorabilia, including but not limited to benches, pictures, trees, and other permanent plantings, such as ivy, is strictly prohibited.