

Lehigh Mennonite Church Cemetery

The maintenance, care, responsibility and ownership of the cemetery has been transferred to Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church effective June 20, 1996.

Cemetery Policy – Effective January 1, 2025

- 1. All former members of the last recorded membership of Lehigh Mennonite Church membership and children, 21 and under, are given burial rights, either for traditional burial or inurnment. This right includes a cemetery plot free of charge.
- 2. Requests for burial rights and reservations from outside the church membership need to be approved by the cemetery committee chair and cemetery historian, as this is not a public cemetery. Generally, requests are honored from those with ties to the Lehigh Community. The cost for non-members is \$400 per plot -- payable to Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, PO Box 8, Goessel, KS 67053.
- 3. The purchase of a plot (\$400 for non-members) provides burial rights which provide for one traditional burial or up to 3 inurnments in that plot.
- 4. All digging fees related to traditional or cremation burials are the responsibility of the family. Arrangements for digging must be coordinated with the cemetery committee chair and cemetery historian.
- 5. Out of respect for our church's peace stance, it is requested that there be no military style ceremony as part of the graveside service.
- 6. Vault. A concrete vault or better is required on traditional burials. The grave will be backfilled with sand to the point 18 inches below grade. The balance of the grave will be filled with topsoil so that the grave is completely covered and some allowance for settling is provided. No flat surface vaults or individual mausoleums are allowed. A vault is not required for cremation burials.

- 7. Spacing. East-West Spacing of rows at 12 feet. Spacing between plots is 60 inches, center to center. Each grave is 8 feet long.
- 8. Monuments. Monuments must be made of stone or masonry material. The foundation must be constructed according to the monument company's specifications so that it is of adequate size for the monument being placed. This foundation should not include any piers so that future foundation work can be handled more easily. The church cemetery chair and cemetery historian must approve the location of the monument so that all monuments line up.
- 9. A \$50 fee will be assessed to mark the location of the monument. This fee is payable to Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, PO Box 8, Goessel, KS, 67053. Arrangements to mark the location need to be made at least 48 hours in advance.
- 10. Location & Reservations. Unless there is a previous reservation in a family plot or next to a deceased family member, the location of the grave may be selected from the next available spot. Reservations for a spouse next to a burial plot will be allowed.
- 11. Cremation burials. The cemetery committee chair and/or cemetery historian will provide options for cremation burial location. A maximum of three cremation burials are allowed per plot. The hole shall be 24" x 24" by 28" deep. These burials will be back filled with sand and covered with top soil. Cremation burials will be noted in the cemetery records with a "C" after location. Cremation burial is **not** allowed over an existing vault. A vault is not required for cremation burials.
- 12. In an end-of-life planning situation, the church cemetery chair and cemetery historian will work closely with the family in a best effort attempt to honor the family's wishes.