

A motion was made at the July 11, 2010 voters meeting to approve the items below that are underlined. The motion passed.

**From the December, 2002 Constitution & Handbook of
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**REGULATIONS FOR INTERNMENT IN THE CEMETERY OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
264 CR 143, RIESEL, TEXAS**

- 1. No one may be buried on our cemetery who has lived an openly unchristian life (Galatians 5:19-21, Matthew 8:22) – unless he has given unquestioned proof that he has repented on his wicked ways of life in all sincerity.**
- 2. No one will be granted a burial plot on our cemetery who has openly despised the means of grace, the Word and the Sacraments, if he continues in such opinion till death. (John 3:36, Luke 7:30, Acts 13:44-46, Hebrews 10:22-26)**
- 3. No one who has committed suicide in his right mind will be granted a burial plot on our cemetery. (Exodus 20:13 and Proverbs 24:8) Those, however, who have laid hands upon themselves in a time of lack of understanding or sickness shall not be counted as deliberate suicides. They will thus be granted a Christian burial, provided they are not excluded by the foregoing paragraphs.
(NOTE: By action of the July 2010 Voter's Assembly, 'Those' means: members of Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.)**
- 4. No one who is under church discipline may be granted burial on our cemetery. (Matthew 18:15-17, 1 Corinthians 5:1-13) (NOTE: By action of the January, 1986 Voter's Assembly, placement on the Inactive Members List, established by the congregation, constitutes being under church discipline.)**
- 5. No pastor of a different denomination may officiate on our cemetery. (2 John 10:11, Revelation 22:18-19, Galatians 2:4, 1 Corinthians 15:12-16, 2 Corinthians 6:14-18)
(NOTE: By action of the July 2010 Voter's Assembly, 'different denomination' means: denomination other than of Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.)**
- 6. Furthermore, no other Lutheran Pastor may serve on our cemetery without direct permission of the church and the local pastor. (1 Peter 4:15) In the absence of the local pastor, an appointed member of the congregation shall properly carry out these regulations.**

(NOTE: By action of the July 2010 Voter's Assembly, 'Lutheran' means: Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.)

7. No secret organization, as a body, or with insignia of their order, will be allowed on our cemetery, nor shall they conduct their ceremonies on the cemetery.

8. No one who leaves the congregation and becomes a member of a church outside of our denomination will be granted a burial plot.

(NOTE: By action of the July 2010 Voter's Assembly, 'our denomination' means: the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.)

9. Those who have formerly belonged to other denominations, but who have left such churches, and who do not live an openly ungodly life and have not blasphemed the Word of God, may with good conscience be buried on our cemetery, provided they show a tendency toward the Lutheran faith.

(NOTE: By action of the July 2010 Voter's Assembly, 'show a tendency' means: have started the process of confirmation, and 'Lutheran' means: Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.)

10. Those who are not members of our congregation must obtain permission beforehand if they wish to be buried on our cemetery. They shall pay in advance the sum on \$250.00 to the treasurer of the cemetery.

(NOTE: By action of the July 2010 Voter's Assembly, 'Those' means: members of Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.)

11. Every member of this congregation has the right to be buried on our cemetery without special permission and without cost (provided they comply with rules 1, 2, 3, 4).

12. Those who have taken the proper steps to become members of our congregation may be buried on our cemetery without cost (provided they comply with rules 1, 2, 3, 4).

13. A list of those who are buried on our cemetery shall be kept, giving age, sex, name, day of death, and day of burial.

14. The inscriptions on the tombstones shall not contain any unchristian message.

15. The following paragraphs shall be deemed unchangeable: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, and this 15th.

Explanations: The cemetery of Trinity Lutheran Church consists of three sections...

- I. The first Section, south of the original driveway, is complete. No new curbing shall be installed.
- II. The second section, north of the original driveway, is complete except for reservations. No new curbing shall be installed.
- III. The third section – located north of section two.

REGULATIONS FOR CEMETERY PROPERTY

A. CARE OF GRAVES

No shrubbery or trees shall be planted in Section III. Section III shall be kept at ground level – suitable for mowing. No curbing shall be installed. All markers in Section III shall be flush with the ground. The cemetery committee shall have authority to resolve any violation of these rules.

B. CEMETERY COMMITTEE

A special committee of three members over 21 years of age shall regulate the cemetery, (see by-laws). This committee shall keep an accurate record of all resolutions pertaining to the entire cemetery, and shall inform all persons of any changes made over the years. The committee shall keep up-to-date records of all transactions and offer adequate information to next of kin of actions of the congregation.

C. SCHEDULE

1. Graves shall be opened in proper order, following row upon row until each row is completed.
2. For reservations, contact the cemetery committee.

Trinity Lutheran Church continues to maintain an Endowment Fund, first established in 1973, to provide for the perpetual care and maintenance of the cemetery. This special fund is operated under the following conditions:

1. All monies invested in said fund are received as gifts and donations.
2. The total fund is invested in a savings account to draw interest.
3. Only the interest from this fund will be expended for care, maintenance, and development of the cemetery.

To insure that the principle investment is large enough to earn sufficient interest for future years, your free-will contributions to this fund will be greatly appreciated.

Send your gift to: TRINITY LUTHERAN CEMETERY FUND

P.O. Box 447 Riesel, Texas 76682