

Berea Baptist Church Cemetery Rules

The following rules were revised and were presented and approved by the church at the April 16, 2023 business meeting to be effective for grave lots reserved or purchased on or after May 1, 2023.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The cemetery committee of Berea Baptist Church, located at 5011 Fayetteville Road, Durham, North Carolina, 27713, has adopted the following rules and regulations that govern the property known as Berea Baptist Church Cemetery.

The Berea Baptist Church Cemetery was established for the burial of family members of Berea Baptist Church. The Berea Baptist Church Cemetery Committee was established to oversee the maintenance and care of the cemetery grounds. Fees, voluntary contributions, and funds budgeted from the yearly church budget currently support cemetery operations.

All internments and disinterment's in Berea Baptist Church Cemetery shall be done in strict compliance with the laws, rules, and regulations of the properly constituted authorities of Berea Baptist Church, the city of Durham, the county of Durham, and the state of North Carolina.

All burial ceremonies are to be conducted in accordance with the covenants and beliefs of Berea Baptist Church.

All cemetery property is considered sacred ground devoted to the burial of our loved ones and will provide a peaceful and visually pleasing atmosphere conducive to meditation and reflection.

Berea Baptist Church Contact Information:

Website: www.bereabaptistdurham.org

Email: bereabaptistdurham@gmail.com

Telephone #: 919.544.7151

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Eligibility to be interred in the cemetery:

1. An **Active** member of Berea Baptist Church and their dependent children are eligible for burial plots at no cost. Donations to the church cemetery fund will be accepted for perpetual care of the cemetery.
 - For HUSBAND OR WIFE OF ACTIVE MEMBER – A **\$500.00** perpetual care fee will be required.
 - a. An Active member is defined as someone who, at the time of death meets the following conditions:
 - i. Their name is on the church roll, is actively engaged in regular church services and fellowship unless hindered by physical reasons, and actively engaged in providing regular financial contributions to the church.
2. An **Inactive** member of Berea Baptist Church are eligible for a burial plot. A perpetual care fee of **\$1,250** will be required.
 - a. An Inactive member is defined as someone who, at the time of death:
 - i. Has their name on the church roll, but is not actively engaged in regular church services, fellowship or has not provided regular financial contributions to the church within the past 18 months.
3. All other burial privileges are required to be requested by an Active or Inactive member in writing, and be presented to the Berea Baptist Church Cemetery Committee, Pastor and/or Chairman of the Board of Deacons.
 - a. Berea Baptist Church will have the authority to approve or deny the request.
 - b. A decision will be given in 24 hours of request.
 - c. For those approved, A **\$2,000.00** perpetual care fee will be required.
 - d. All fees must be paid before the grave can be opened. FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE
 - e. Requests approved must follow “Cemetery & Reserving a Grave Site guidelines” listed on page 2.

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Cemetery Rules:

1. All fees must be paid before the grave can be opened. **FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE**
2. The family is responsible for grave opening, removal of excess dirt and leveling of new grave for grass seeding & mowing.
4. Grave site does not convey the right of property but does convey the privilege to use as a grave site.
5. In case of Cremation **two persons** may be buried in one grave site.
6. Maintenance and care of the Berea Baptist Church cemetery is to be funded by contributions and perpetual care fees of family members, loved ones and friends of Berea Baptist Church.
7. Reserving a Grave Site
 - a. Active & Inactive Members wishing to reserve a grave site must submit a request in writing to the Cemetery Committee.
 - b. Persons need to mark their reserved grave site with a foot stone. **The foot stone should be in place within 90 days of reserving the site. If there is a delay due to supply chain issue, provide an update to Berea Baptist church contact with new delivery date.***
 - c. Head Stones shall not be more than 6 feet wide by 3 feet 6 inches tall.
Example: Olive's Head Stone
 - d. **As of 2008, NO NEW GRAVE SITES** will be allowed in front of the first row until the cemetery is deemed full behind the first row.
 - e. If a person is buried elsewhere, the grave site reverts back to the property of Berea Baptist Church.
 - f. If a person moves their membership, the previously selected grave site reverts back to the property of Berea Baptist Church.
 - g. A receipt will be provided for **ALL** reserved grave sites.
8. Appearance of Grave Sites
 - a. **As of 2008**, The Church will not allow the planting of trees in the cemetery.
 - b. Flowers and Wreaths Are Allowed.
 - i. If flowers start to fade or look weathered, the church has the right to remove them.
 - ii. **ALL** flowers will be required to be placed in a non-glass vase.

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- c. **NO GLASS CONTAINERS** are allowed in the cemetery.
 - d. Berea Baptist Church has the right to allow or disallow flags and/or any other ornamentation
 - e. Nothing shall be placed around the head stone or grave site that may present problems for the groundkeeper.
 - f. **NO** bricks, blocks, fences, chains, shrubbery, or other obstructions will be permitted on or around grave sites.
 - g. **Berea Baptist Church** retains the right to remove anything it deems to be a hazard.
9. **Berea Baptist Church is not responsible** for any damage to grave markers or theft of personal items from acts of vandalism.
10. **Berea Baptist Church Board of Deacons along with the Trustees reserve the right to change or amend any of the above rules and guidelines for the betterment of Berea Baptist Church.**