**Apostolic Christian Church of Athens, AL, Cemetery Guidelines**

**Purpose and Use**

**The Apostolic Christian Church of Athens, AL, cemetery is a private cemetery to be used by its members and regularly attending non-members and their immediate family members. Those who do not meet these requirements or charity cases will require approval of the church elder or ministers, and a cemetery trustee. The cost of using the plots must be paid in advance and the use must be approved by the church prior to receiving the right to be buried at the cemetery. The cost of a plot will be the current church-approved price at the time of purchase.**

**Opening and Closing of Graves**

**The family of the deceased shall be responsible for the payment to clean up any remaining dirt/fill and any other fees associated with opening and closing of graves. If permission is given by the church in advance, the family may clean up any remaining dirt/fill within the time allotted by the church.**

**Plots**

**Grave plots are to be 5’ x 10’. No flowers nor any other decorations, ornaments, or any other items will be allowed on the ground except for up to 14 days following a burial. Removal of all of these items shall take place after 14 days following a burial. Flowers may only be placed in permanent holders attached to the headstones or foot holders. The cemetery staff will remove flowers and other items as stated unless removed ahead of time by the family. Headstones may not be taller than 4 feet. Temporary grave markers will be removed after 12 months following a burial or the headstone is placed, whichever comes earlier. Shrubbery, trees, benches, fencing, coping, lighting, landscaping, statues, flag poles, and all other items will not be allowed on the plots. Anything interfering with the upkeep of the grounds is subject to removal. No sale or transfer of plots may be made by anyone. If anyone wishes to relinquish a plot, it will go back to the church.**

**Vaults**

**All caskets must be placed into an outer burial container made of either concrete or steel.**

**The Apostolic Christian Church of Athens, AL, Inc., does not assume any liability for any headstones or items placed in the cemetery. These rules are subject to change with or without notice.**