

Six Mile Cemetery Association Newsletter

May 2025

Dear Friends of Six Mile Cemetery,

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your unwavering support of the cemetery. As cherished members of the Six Mile Cemetery Association, your dedication is invaluable.

In Loving Memory of Dawna Christofferson

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Dawna Christofferson, our long-time board member and most recent co-chairman. Dawna's presence at our meetings was a source of warmth and joy; her charming personality and infectious laughter brightened every room she entered. Her dedication to our association and the genuine care she showed for each of us will be deeply missed. We are grateful for the time we shared with her and the lasting impact she made on our cemetery. Dawna's legacy will continue to inspire us as we move forward in our work together.

Annual Board and Public Meeting Recap

The Annual Public Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting were held on Thursday, April 17, 2025. The meeting covered general business, including the re-election of existing Board members for the upcoming three-year term and the election of a new board members, a co-treasurer, new historian and a couple co-chairman's

Memorial Day Weekend

As Memorial Day weekend approaches, we look forward to welcoming you and your families to the cemetery. Our team will be on-site to greet you and assist with any inquiries you may have.

Please note that glass vases are prohibited. Approximately two weeks after Memorial Day, we will remove any flowers obstructing mower access to ensure proper maintenance. If you wish to preserve your flowers, kindly collect them before this time.

Upcoming Price Increase for Cemetery Plots

Effective **July 1, 2025**, the price for cemetery plots will increase to **\$450.00**. We encourage you to consider purchasing plots before this date to take advantage of the current pricing.

Grounds Maintenance Update

We are pleased to announce that **ARC Lawn & Landscaping**, a reputable local company based in Independence, Missouri, has been selected to care for the grounds of Six Mile Cemetery. Their team offers a comprehensive range of services, including lawn mowing, landscape design, and maintenance. With their expertise and dedication to quality, we are confident that our cemetery will continue to be a beautiful and serene resting place for our loved ones.

For more information about ARC Lawn & Landscaping, please visit their website: arclawnandlandscaping.com

Updating Contact Information

To ensure you receive future communications and newsletters, please update your mailing address or contact information by emailing us at 6mile@sixmilecemetery.org. If you prefer to receive the newsletter via email, kindly indicate your preference in your message.

Historical Information and Contacts

For inquiries regarding the cemetery's history, please email us at 6mile@sixmilecemetery.org Attn: Cheryl Mullis. Current contact details for Board members are available on the website or feel free to reach out to us directly via email.

In Memory of Contributions

As we reflect on the cherished memories of our loved ones, we are reminded of the importance of honoring their legacies. We invite you to consider donating to the Six Mile Cemetery Association in memory of those who have touched our lives deeply. Your generous contribution will help preserve and maintain this sacred space, ensuring that future generations can continue to find solace and connection here. Together, let's keep their memories alive and their resting place beautiful.

Save the Dates

Mark your calendars for next year's meetings on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 7:00 pm in the Six Mile Baptist Church. We encourage all members to attend, and we eagerly anticipate welcoming new Board members. If you are interested in serving, please reach out to one of the current Board members.

Special Thank YOU's

We extend our deepest thanks to each and every individual involved here at Six Mile Cemetery, our board, and our association for their generosity, passion, and unwavering dedication to making our cemetery a better place for all.

Once again, thank you for your continued dedication to the Six Mile Cemetery. Your support ensures the preservation and care of this sacred space for generations to come.

Warm regards,

John Riley

Six Mile Cemetery Association Chairman

History of Six Mile Baptist Church

By Julie Pollard

The Six Mile Baptist Church holds the distinction of being the oldest church in Jackson County, Missouri, and one of the oldest country church organizations in the state. Founded on June 19, 1825, by a group of individuals who met under a large tree along the Santa Fe Trail, the church was originally organized as a Primitive Baptist Church. The church's name derives from its location within a six-mile area of protection around Fort Osage, a designation referred to as "Six Mile Country."

The church has had three buildings over its history. The first was a log structure situated about one mile west of the current location, with Reverend Joab Powell serving as the first pastor. In 1835, Six Mile Baptist Church hosted the Blue River Association's first annual meeting, marking a significant event in its history. The church also took a bold stance in 1839 by supporting local and international missions, contributing to other churches and aiding Indigenous communities.

In 1859, the second church was built on land donated by Colonel James Chiles, approximately a mile-and-a-half from the original log church. The third church was constructed in 1904 by carpenter Frank Stone from Independence. In 1925, the church celebrated its 100th anniversary in this building, with about 1,000 attendees and a replica of the original log church displayed on the lawn.

Tragedy struck on January 13, 1971, when a fire destroyed the church. Despite this setback, the congregation rebuilt, and on August 8, 1971, the new church building was completed enough to hold its first worship service. The church continues to serve the community, with plans for a 200th-anniversary celebration on June 22,



Please Enjoy These Recipes from the 1991 Six Mile Baptist Church Cookbook

In celebration of our community's rich culinary traditions, we are delighted to share

Coconut Cream Pie Virginia Chiles 1 / 2 In saucepan, combine: $\frac{3}{4}$ c. sugar $\frac{1}{3}$ c. all-purpose flour or 3 Tbsp. Cornstarch $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. Salt · Gradually add 2 cups of milk, mixing well. Cook and stir over medium heat till mixture thickens and boils. Cook 2 minutes longer. Remove from heat. Stir small amount hot mixture into 3 slightly beaten egg yolks; immediately return to hot mixture. Cook 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, add 2 tablespoons butter and 1 teaspoon vanilla, 1 cup flaked coconut. Pour into cooled baked 9-inch pastry shell. · Spread meringue (3 egg whites) atop pie and bake at 350 degrees 12-15 minutes or until brown.

Best Ever Meat Loaf Bertha Willard 1 can of cream of mushroom soup or golden mushroom soup 2 lbs. ground beef $\frac{1}{2}$ c. fine dry breadcrumbs $\frac{1}{3}$ c. finely chopped onion 1 egg, slightly beaten 1 tsp. Salt $\frac{1}{3}$ c. water 2 or 3 Tbsp. Drippings · Mix $\frac{1}{2}$ cup soup, beef, breadcrumbs, onion, egg and salt. Shape firmly into loaf (8x4 inches) place in shallow baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Blend remaining soup, water and drippings. Heat, stir occasionally. Serve with loaf. Makes 6 servings

Egg Butter In Memory of Lutie Chiles · Put 1 cup molasses in a skillet and add a lump of butter the size of an egg. · Add: 2 well beaten eggs, a little nutmeg. Stir briskly all the while or the eggs will cook in big pieces. Take up as soon as the eggs are well stirred in. · Serve as you would serve apple butter. This is a very old recipe and comes from the home of Mr. William Tremaine's mother.