

Overview

Our Memorial Garden offers a tranquil, dignified and easily accessible place for the interment of ashes. Within this garden, loved ones may be laid to rest surrounded by the attributes of the faith that nurtured, supported and sustained them during life. The Garden serves as a visible witness to our faith that we are in God's hands in death as well as in life, and that death is a part of life in God and serves as a passage into His kingdom.



Cremation and the Christian Faith

The committal of mortal remains to the earth through cremation is favored by man, and is in no way conflicting with the doctrine of the resurrection of the body. St. Paul assures that we will be clothed with a new spiritual body appropriate to our new spiritual state in the day of general resurrection. Thus, cremation is an acceptable practice, and in accord with the teaching of the Church. The body dies: earth to earth, ashes to ashes. The spirit lives in God's gracious and loving hands. Our Garden serves as a witness to this belief and provides a comforting, permanent monument of beauty, peace and dignity.

Administration

The Garden's use is restricted to the interment of ashes after cremation. Some, or all ashes may be buried within or scattered throughout the Garden.

The Garden is administered by the Memorial Garden Committee. All planting is architecturally specified and is done under the supervision of the Committee. In order to preserve the Garden's balance and beauty, no additional plants or sculptures are permitted.

A non-refundable fee of \$300 is required, and includes the purchase and installation of a brass plaque, bearing the name, birth date and death date of the individual. This plaque will be applied to one of the marble platforms that surrounds the fountain at the center of the Garden. Also, this fee covers perpetual care and general maintenance of the Garden.

Memorial Garden Committee

The Memorial Garden Committee provides and reviews applications for memorial plaques, maintains appropriate records and administers the Memorial Garden Fund. The Committee is made up of the pastor, and a minimum of three lay people. The Committee reports Garden activity to the session on a periodic basis.

Applications, Fees & Contributions

Applications are available in the church office and may be completed prior to time of death, or completed by a family member. Upon receipt, application will be reviewed by the pastor and at least one committee member for approval. Fees are payable at the time of application. All fees or donations to the Garden Fund are maintained in a special account and are used only for Garden expenses. Contributions are welcome and are greatly appreciated. Funds will be used to maintain the high standards of beauty and excellence desired for our Garden. Any contribution should be made specifically to: **"Memorial Garden Fund"**



Record Keeping

In addition to the Memorial Wall, a record of those whose ashes rest in the Garden will be kept and maintained by the church office. It will include names of deceased, as well as birth and death dates.