**Document #: General Policies – G-8** Created: 4-16-2014

**Title/Subject:** **Memorial Garden Interment** Revised: 10-25-2016

**Purpose:** Reviewed/Unchanged:

**Operational Authority:** Memorial Garden Committee

## **Policy**

# **– Memorial Garden and Plaques:**

The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Rochester, Minnesota will maintain the Memorial Garden, the *In Loving Memory* memorial plaque in the church lobby, and the *Garden Panel of Names* as long as the church exists in its present location. If the church should move, a representative sample from the Memorial Garden will be also be moved to the new location, a new Memorial Garden will be established, and both memorial plaques will be installed in appropriate places in the new church. The *In Loving Memory* plaque in the church lobby holds names of those interred in the Memorial Garden and other names of members/friends and their family members who wish to be memorialized at church. The *Garden Panel of Names* placed outside in the Memorial Garden include only the names of those interred in the Memorial Garden. (approved 4-16-2014)

# **Responsibility:**

The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Rochester, Minnesota has an established Memorial Garden Committee that fulfills the duties and procedures as defined in the Committee Description (Policy C-11 Memorial Garden).

**Statement of Policy:**

* Ashes may be placed directly in the earth, or they may be buried in a biodegradable cloth bag provided by the Memorial Garden committee or the family.
* Individual plots are not marked. Records of the burial and placement are kept as a part of the permanent church records.
* Previous settled ministers who wish to be interred in our Memorial Garden will be gifted a plot from the First Unitarian Universalist Church.

**Definitions:**

***Garden Panel of Names***

This panel, located outside of the church in the Memorial Garden, holds engraved bronze plates with the name of individuals who are interred in the Memorial Garden.

***In Loving Memory memorial plaque***

This plaque, located inside the church, holds engraved brass plates with the names of individuals who are interred in the Memorial Garden, and names of congregation members, friends and family members wishing to be memorialized at the church.

***Memorial Garden Fund***

This fund provides for the maintenance of the Memorial Garden, interior and exterior memorial plaques and related activities. Financial contributions are welcome at any time and should be designated to the Memorial Garden Fund.

## **Procedure**

**Fees:**

The Memorial Garden fee of $400 will purchase one space in the garden. This fee also includes:

* A biodegradable cloth bag provided by the First Unitarian Universalist Church as a receptacle for the ashes.
* Interment of ashes.
* Engraved bronze name plate placed on the *Garden Panel of Names.*
* Engraved brass name plate on the *In Loving Memory* plaque
* Certificate of Interment.
* Maintenance of appropriate records.
* Perpetual care of the Memorial Garden.
* Ashes of multiple individuals may be interred during one ceremony. A fee of $200 for each additional individual will cover the cost of the bronze and brass name plates.
* Fees may be paid prior to or at the time of death.
* Upon request of the family, the minister may waive or reduce the amount of the fees.

**Memorial Without Interment:**

This Memorial fee is $150 and purchases an engraved brass name plate on the interior *In Loving Memory* plaque.

**Certificate of Memorial and Interment:**

* This certificate is issued to the family at the time of interment.
* A burial plot may be purchased prior to death and a Certificate Memorial and Interment Rights is issued to demonstrate a plot is reserved in the Memorial Garden.

## **Associated Documents**

Operating Committees - C-11 Memorial Garden Committee

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