

**First Unitarian Church of South Bend
Memorial Garden Policy and Procedures
March 10, 2021**

Purpose and Use of the Memorial Garden

- 1) To provide a place of peace and serenity for bereaved families and friends, or for anyone else seeking a quiet place.
- 2) To provide a final resting place for the ashes of those close to the church.

Management

- 1) All physical aspects of the Memorial Garden, such as landscaping, outdoor furniture, and maintenance will be overseen by the Grounds Committee.
- 2) The memorial use (see **Scattering of Ashes** below) of the Memorial Garden and permanent record keeping will be overseen by the Memorial Garden Committee, a subcommittee appointed by the Grounds Committee, whose members will serve at least two years.
- 3) Any special events or activities proposed for this space must reflect the garden's peace and serenity, be approved by the Memorial Garden Committee, and be posted in advance on the church calendar.

Scattering of Ashes

Eligibility

Members and friends of the church and their immediate families are eligible to have their ashes scattered in the Memorial Garden.

Process

- 1) Ashes may be scattered in the garden in locations approved by the Memorial Garden Committee in consultation with the Minister and/or family/friends of the deceased.
- 2) Permanent records of ashes scattered in the garden will be kept by the Memorial Garden Committee and stored in the church office or minister's office.
- 3) No permanent decorations, personal objects, or other markers may be placed in the Memorial Garden.
- 4) To maintain the integrity of the garden design, any plantings must be approved by the Grounds Committee.

Other

Any activities or actions related to the Memorial Garden not specified in this document are subject to the advance approval of the Memorial Garden Committee and/or Grounds Committee.