



## **Memorial Garden Policy and Procedures**





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### **Purpose and Description**

The Memorial Garden of Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church exists to bring glory to God as a place for contemplative thought and prayer, as well as serving as a final resting place for members of the congregation. The garden includes seating, flowers and shrubs, a pathway, and a bronze plaque(s) with individual engraved markers for the names of those memorialized in the garden.

### **Who may be memorialized in the garden?**

Anyone may have their cremated remains interred or scattered in the garden, though preference will be given to church members. An application for memorialization in the garden must be completed and approved by the Board of Trustees before the interment or scattering of ashes is allowed to take place. Applications will be available and kept on file in the Church Office. The Church Office staff will be responsible for receiving and recording applications and the collection of associated fees.

### **What are the fees for memorialization?**

There is a one-time fee of \$1,000.00. Funds received relative to interment of ashes in the memorial garden will be used to defray the costs of establishing the memorial garden. This fee will include permission for the cremated remains of an individual to be interred and their name to be engraved on a bronze plaque in the garden. Only one person may be memorialized per marker. Memorials may be purchased in advance, though the selection of where the bronze marker will be placed on the plaque is up to the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

### **Markers**

The Memorial Garden will include individual, engraved plates with the name of the deceased along with the dates of their birth and death to be included on a large, bronze plaque in the garden. The church will provide the markers and the cost of engraving them is included in the fee for memorialization. The Board of Trustees of the church will see to having the markers engraved, and the style of the markers will be uniform for everyone whose remains are interred in the garden per the example below:

Dr. John Quincy Doe, Jr.  
Feb 2, 1932 - Nov 14, 2015

## **Exclusions**

Only human cremated remains will be allowed to be interred in the Memorial Garden. Ashes of animals of any kind are not to be included in interment. There will be no markers, paintings, or additional decorations or ornamentations (wind chimes, flags, flowers, etc.) added to the Memorial Garden. Cremated remains are to be given to the church in a biodegradable or disposable vessel for interment in the garden. Urns or other vessels are not permitted to be interred in the garden. Additional exclusions may be added to this document in the future by the Trustees with approval from the Church Council.

## **Legal Disclaimer**

The Memorial Garden is not a cemetery or a columbarium. The garden is perpetual in nature and is a non-commercial venture that is the property of Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church. No rights or privileges of any nature are deemed or granted to families of those interred. All rights are reserved by Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church and its Board of Trustees to make changes, now or in the future, to this policy and to the Memorial Garden.



## Memorial Garden Interment Form

I have read and agree to abide by the Memorial Garden Guidelines. On behalf of myself and my heirs, I release Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church of Asheville, NC its members, its employees, Board of Trustees, and pastor(s) from any liability arising out of the operation and administration of the Memorial Garden. I recognize that the Memorial Garden is not a cemetery or columbarium, and, as outlined in the Memorial Garden Policy, waive all claims to the Memorial Garden.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Deceased: \_\_\_\_\_

Approval Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board of Trustees Chairperson

### Data for Engraving

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name (as it is to appear on the memorial marker—PLEASE *PRINT* NEATLY)

\_\_\_\_\_  
date of birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
date of death



## Application for Interment in the Memorial Garden

I/we hereby request permission to have the cremated remains of

\_\_\_\_\_

placed in the Memorial Garden of Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church in Asheville, North Carolina. I/we have received a copy of the Memorial Garden Policy from the Church Office. I/we have read these guidelines and agree to abide by them.

Name of Applicant(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The associated fee of \$1000 for memorialization has been \_\_\_\_\_ paid \_\_\_\_\_ not paid

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Trustees Chair Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_