## First Unitarian Church of St. Louis

5007 Waterman Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63108

Memorial Garden Purposes and Policies

## **Purposes:**

The Memorial Garden, a consecrated area of the church grounds, is designated for private reflection, meditation, remembrance of the deceased, formal celebration of life passages and for receiving cremated remains ("cremains") as specified in section 2, all in accord with policies, as follows:

## **Polices:**

1.) The use and maintenance of the Memorial Garden (the "Garden") of the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis (the "Church") is under the exclusive control of its Board of Trustees (the "Board"), with authority delegated to the Memorial Garden Committee (the "Committee") as specified in this document. The Garden is located on church property as outlined in the prospectus for the garden. Said real property is hereby consecrated for the aforementioned purposes. No other use of the property shall be made. The Church reserves the right to reasonably restrict ingress and egress to the Garden. In the event it becomes necessary to relocate the Garden, a symbolic quantity of soil from the current Garden shall be moved to and be spread to the new location.

2.) In conjunction with the Garden, the Church will offer to include the deceased in a Book of Memory, will offer a name plate for the deceased as part of a Memorial Display and will offer use of the Garden for scattering cremains—all according to eligibility described in sections 3 and applicable fees described in section 8. Any person meeting the eligibility standards in section 3 may be included in the Book of Memory regardless of the person's final disposition.

3.) Persons eligible for services are, as follows:

- a) A member of friend of the church
- b) A spouse or family member of a member or friend
- c) A person with whom a member or friend has had a significant and lasting relationship
- d) Any other person given written permission by the Committee

The Committee shall certify and/or determine eligibility according to the aforementioned categories.

One may apply in advance to use the aforementioned services for him or herself, or a responsible party may apply on behalf of the deceased.

4.) The Book of Memory shall provide a page, designated for longevity, for information and/or photos pertaining to each deceased, as desired by the responsible party. It shall be prepared by the responsible party or the Committee. The Book of Memory shall be displayed in Church facilities, ad a copy of each page shall be kept in the Church safe.

5.) The Memorial Display, to be in church facilities, shall offer a name plate for each deceased. The Committee shall recommend and the Board shall approve the design and location of the Display and accompanying name plates.

6.) Cremains will be scattered on well-established plantings, then worked and/or watered into the soil. They will not be assigned a particular or exclusive location, nor will they be recoverable or preservable intact.

7.) No disposition of cremains shall be made, nor any decorations or flowers be placed, nor plantings be made in the Garden without the written permission of the Committee.

8.) No fee shall be charged for the inclusion in the Book of Memory. A fee amount recommended by the Committee and approved by the Board will be charged to place a name plate in the Memorial Display. No fee shall be charged for scattering cremains in the Garden, but a donation to the Church on behalf of the Garden, either prior to or at the time of each usage, will be suggested. (Fees for any ministerial services associated with ceremonies in the Garden will be determined by mutual consent of the provider and the recipient of such services).

9.) The Committee, when first established, shall consist of five members of the Church who shall serve varying terms of approximately three years, with continuity provided through staggering ending dates. Terms of successive members shall be three years.

10.) The Committee shall be responsible for the operation of the Garden and its services. It shall arrange, in collaboration with the Facilities Committee and Landscape Committee, for the maintenance and perpetual care of the Garden and for all improvements to it. The Committee may, from time to time, recommend administrative rules and regulations pertaining to its use, appearance, maintenance and improvement of the Garden.

11.) Funding will be through the Church's operating budget, with the Committee requesting a specified amount for the Garden, as part of the Church's regular budgeting process. Donations specified for the Memorial Fund may be used for the Garden.

12.) All persons making application to the Committee for services of the Garden shall receive a copy of this document. Completing the signature and date sections below constitutes agreement to adhere to policies herein.

I, the undersigned, do hereby state that I have read the policies contained herein, that I understand the provisions thereof and do agree to adhere to said policies.

Signature