

**Grace United Methodist Church**  
**121 Pleasant St. Southington CT 06489**  
**November 18, 2014**

**MEMORIAL GARDEN CHARTER**

The purpose of this document is to define the purpose, governing roles, and rules of operation for the Grace United Methodist Church Memorial Garden. This charter was approved by Church Council on November 18, 2014.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Memorial Garden is to provide a permanent resting place for the cremation remains (cremains) of members of our church family, and a place for quiet meditation and reflection.

**GOVERNING ROLES**

The Trustees are responsible for the operation and upkeep of the garden, including:

- Managing the Memorial Garden trust fund
- Approving requests for interment
- Maintaining the landscape and plaque
- Establishing fees for interment

**RULES OF OPERATION**

The Memorial Garden shall be a permanent resting place for interment of cremains of church members and constituents\* and their immediate family members (spouse and children).

Requests for use of the Memorial Garden shall be referred to the Trustees.

Interred cremains must be either:

1. Placed directly in the ground. This requires cremains that have been recently prepared by a funeral home and are in a pourable state.
2. Presented for burial in an approved biodegradable container, which may be placed in the ground. No other containers or urns will be permitted.

The name of the deceased and his/her years of birth and death shall be engraved and affixed to the plaque, and entered into the Memorial Garden book.

The Memorial Garden book shall contain a map marking the location of recent interments. Names will not appear on the map. The purpose of the map is to rotate the placement of interred cremains to avoid recent interments.

No donation of plants, plaques, stones, monuments, markers or decorations of any kind, either temporary or permanent, shall be allowed in the garden as of November 1, 2014.

\*Constituent as defined in section 230.3 of the 2012 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church.