

REMEMBRANCE GARDEN

Considerations at Time of Death



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Services for the Deceased

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When a death occurs in the family, it is suggested that one of the ministers of the **Franklin Community Church**, hereafter referenced as Church, be called immediately. After consultation, the funeral director of your choice should be contacted.

Remembrance Garden

The Church's Remembrance Garden is an integral part of the services and care provided to the memory of departed loved ones. The Remembrance Garden contains a Scattering Garden area and columbarium, the marble structure containing vaults or niches within which urns are interred.

The Remembrance Garden will be maintained as a place of peace and serenity. It provides a place on the Church property for the permanent preservation of the cremated remains of Church members, their immediate families, and active constituents.

A memorial service or funeral, depending on the wishes of the family, may be held in the sanctuary or at the funeral home for subsequent interment in the Remembrance Garden. For interment in the columbarium, a private interment service conducted by a member of the ministerial staff is often held in the Remembrance Garden days or weeks after the sanctuary service. Services can be arranged at a time mutually convenient for the family, minister, and Church. Memorial services are not held in the Remembrance Garden.

Interment in the Scattering Garden is attended only by the clergy and custodial staff member of the Church.

Cremation

Consistent with the view that the physical body disintegrates and that a new spiritual body is given to us by God in the resurrection, cremation is a reverent method of disposition of our earthly remains and acceptable to the Church.

Cremation may be accomplished at one of a number of crematories in the Detroit area. The family of the deceased is advised to consult with the staff of the crematory to determine if the services of a funeral director are required. As of this writing, embalming is not required if cremation is within forty-eight hours of death. A simple container is required.

Interment

Interment can be accomplished by placement in a niche or by inhuming in the Scattering Garden. Each of the niches of the columbarium is designed to hold the cremated remains of one or two persons. The Church supplies a suitable container for the ashes as part of its service.

Memorial Marker and Identification

Columbarium: Identification of the deceased will be his or her name on a uniform bronze plaque permanently affixed on the niche shutter door of the columbarium at the time of interment.

Scattering Garden: The name of the deceased will be placed on a uniform bronze plaque and permanently attached to a bronze memorial wall plaque designated for that purpose. No lettering other than name and year of birth and death will be permitted on the bronze identification plaque.

No other memorial markers will be approved for placement in the Remembrance Garden.

Memorial and Patrons

The Remembrance Garden also provides an opportunity for members not interred in the Garden to be remembered. When memorial gifts of \$500.00 or greater are given to support or expand the Remembrance Garden, the name for whom the gift is given will be placed on the Memorial Plaque to be differentiated from those interred in the Scattering Garden. If individuals or married couples give a similar gift of \$500.00 to be used for the Garden, their names shall be listed as Patrons on the Memorial Plaque.

Financial Considerations

The fees associated with a niche in the columbarium or the Scattering Garden will provide for the care and maintenance of the Remembrance Garden.

- Interment in a niche is \$1000.00. This includes an urn, the bronze memorial identification plaque, and administrative expenses. Interring a spouse (or second family member) in the same niche is \$750.00.
- Inhuming in the Scattering Garden is \$200.00.

The Church reserves the right to adjust fees as it deems necessary to care for the Remembrance Garden and provide this service. The applicable fees are those which are in effect when an agreement is signed and fees paid. All fees associated with the Remembrance Garden are payable to the Church when the agreement is signed.

Funeral director expenses are not included in the purchase price of a niche or the interment fee in the Remembrance Garden.

Terms and Conditions

Interment in the Remembrance Garden is for the cremated remains of deceased individuals who have been an active part of the Church family and extends to the following:

1. Present Church members and their immediate family. The Administrative Council has defined immediate family as a member's spouse, parents, children and their spouses, and unmarried grandchildren.
2. Former active members and their spouses.
3. Long-term active constituents. The Administrative Council has defined a long-term active constituent as an individual who has regularly attended worship services and pledged financial support to the general fund for a minimum period of five years.

When financial responsibilities have been met, the signed agreement will provide permission for the cremated remains of the designated individual to be interred in a columbarium niche or inhumed in the Scattering Garden.

Arrangements

Arrangements for interment are made with the Church office or ministerial staff. When possible, the ministerial staff recommends this be done well in advance of need so decisions may be made prior to the time of bereavement. Members may submit a statement of funeral plans or memorial service preferences or execute an agreement at a time of their choice. It is the responsibility of the Church staff to securely maintain accurate and current records including pre-arrangement agreements for the Remembrance Garden.

General

The Church is responsible for the maintenance of the Remembrance Garden.

The Church will maintain accurate records of the Remembrance Garden showing interments and reservations for future use. A duplicate, off-site record will be maintained.

Floral displays or memorial decorations are not permitted in the Remembrance Garden.

No interments or removals shall be made without prior written consent of the Church.

The Administrative Council shall have the right to relocate, and/or enlarge, all or any part of the Remembrance Garden when, in its opinion, this action shall be necessary and desirable.

A complete statement of the Terms and Conditions are part of the Remembrance Garden Agreement.

