

GIFTS

Contributions for the maintenance and enhancement of the Garden are always welcome. Please note "Memorial Garden" with your donation.

Families may wish to designate the Memorial Garden for donations in memory of a loved one.



August 2026

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Please check one or more:

- ☐ I would like to hear from a member of the Memorial Garden Committee
- ☐ I would like to communicate with a member of the clergy
- ☐ I would like to receive a contract

Name(s):

Street:

City, State, ZIP:

email:

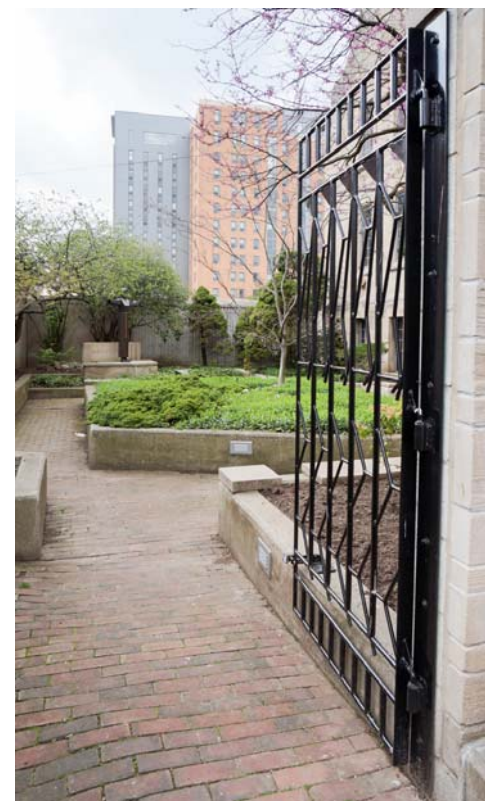
Telephone:

Best time(s) to call:

You may send a copy of this panel to the church or email the information to: memorialgarden@fumc-a2.org.

You may also wish to visit the church website at www.fumc-a2.org or the Memorial Garden page at : www.fumc-a2.org/fumc-ann-arbor/the-memorial-garden/

MEMORIAL GARDEN



First United Methodist Church

120 S. State St.

Ann Arbor MI 48104

(734) 662-4536

www.fumc-a2.org

WHY A MEMORIAL GARDEN?

We are part of Creation - made of dust...

Genesis 2:7 - "Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life."

...and to dust we shall return.

Genesis 3:19 - "By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

In cremation, and particularly in burying cremains directly into the ground, we return to the earth from which we came, mixing with Creation.

Ash Wednesday reminds us that ashes represent our mortality and our participation in the journey of Christ through Lent to the Cross and on to Resurrection.

The argument is sometimes made that Christians should not be cremated because we believe in resurrection. However, in I Corinthians 15 (verses 35-55), Paul makes clear that resurrection is not about the reviving of our physical bodies. It is a spiritual phenomenon. Thus, the United Methodist Church accepts cremation as a means of committing our mortal bodies to God. Our Confession of Faith speaks of the resurrection of the dead but not of these specific bodies.

Our Memorial Garden was consecrated in 1981 to be a final resting place for persons who wish to be near a place that was significant to them in life.

THE INTERMENT PROCESS



An interment can be arranged once the church has been notified of the death.

Interments are customarily scheduled during the warmer months but can be performed during the winter depending on the weather.

The ceremony is conducted by a clergy member with family and friends present.

The ashes are placed directly into the earth within the Garden walls.



FEES

Fees are currently:

- \$1000 for members of FUMC
- \$1500 for non-members They include:
 - the interment ceremony,
 - inscription of the name on the wall in the Garden and
 - perpetual maintenance.

Fees may be prepaid to fix the price.

The fee structure is reviewed each year by the Committee.

Fees do not include:

- the cost of the cremation
- a separate Memorial Service



The gate shown on the cover of this brochure is an exclusive design by FUMC member David R. Byrd entitled, "When Saints Go Marching."