

## **First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington – Memorial Garden**

### **History:**

The Memorial Garden was planned in 1979 and installed in 1980 under the leadership of several Society members. The purpose of the Garden is to serve the desire of Society members and friends who wish to have their ashes or the ashes of their loved ones buried within the circle of our Unitarian Universalist Community.

The Garden is located on the west side of the Meetinghouse grounds. It is a square fenced area separated by a 20' wide yard space between the west wall of the Meeting house and the east side of the Garden. Originally unenclosed, a chain link fence was added in 1989. At the same time, a handsome wrought iron fence was designed especially for the entrance to the Garden. To further enclose the Garden space, a cedar hedge was planted along the west side bordering the sidewalk on Elmwood Ave. The Garden has continued to grow and evolve over the years into a place of beauty and tranquility.

### **Care & Maintenance:**

The care of the Memorial Garden is under the direction of the Memorial Garden Committee. This committee is composed of four Society members who in turn report to the Property Committee. All aspects of the Garden's care including plantings, decorations, and general upkeep are determined by the Committee. Requests for plants, flowers or other decorations for placement in the Garden are to be made to this Committee which has a list of appropriate plant choices.

### **Interment Procedure:**

All arrangements for interment in the Garden are made through the FUUSB Director of Operations & Finance. Ashes are interred directly, without a container, into the earth of the Garden and the name, date of birth, and death of the interred are recorded in the Memorial Garden Record Book. The suggested fee for interment is \$300, which contributes to perpetual care of the Garden. Contributions to the Memorial Garden Fund are always appreciated. Donations are our Memorial Garden's only source of funds and will be used to cover ongoing maintenance and plantings. Interment cannot take place during the months when the ground is frozen. The gate to the garden is open on Sunday mornings during good weather. At other times, access to the Garden can be arranged through the Memorial Garden Committee or the FUUSB Facilities Manager.

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