

“Garden of Faith”

The Memorial Garden of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

Faith Lutheran Church has designated an area to be utilized as its “Garden of Faith,” for the reverent disposition of human ashes. The “Garden of Faith” is a place to visit, meditate and give thanks for the memories of lives that have been shared. The quiet beauty of the Garden speaks of life—Life Eternal. The Garden provides shelter and privacy for the ashes and a place for commemoration. Deceased members are eligible to have their ashes interred in the garden. Also eligible to have their remains placed in the garden are spouses, children, and parents of members. Others may be interred in the Garden with the permission of Church Council.

The person whose ashes are interred in the garden is commemorated by a name plate containing first and last name, year of birth, and year of death. These name plates are attached to the plaque on the wall. The congregation is obligated to maintain the garden in a respectful and attractive manner. If Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church should disband or move, a good faith effort will be made to notify the family members of the deceased.

Ashes will be interred by a pastor of Faith Lutheran or his/her designee. The name plate will be installed by the church. Ceremonies of remembrance are encouraged. The scheduling and content of all such ceremonies must be approved in advance, and must be in accordance with the policies and procedures of the church. Decorations, either temporary or permanent may not be placed in the garden.

Persons wishing to have their own ashes or those of another individual placed in the garden should complete an information sheet. This sheet includes, along with other information, the name as it is to appear on the name plate, as well as year of birth.

The fee per individual for the interment of ashes, the name plate, and the maintenance of the garden is three hundred fifty dollars, to be paid in advance of the interment.

Accompanying the information sheet should be a remittance for the total cost, three hundred fifty dollars. If for any reason the application is not accepted, the remittance will be returned. In cases of eligible persons who later cancel their applications, the payment will be returned, unless the individual or family wishes it to be used as a contribution for the maintenance of the area.

Other guidelines:

-Faith Lutheran's suggested procedure at the time of death is as follows:

- Call the pastor or vicar first—either at the office or at home regardless of the time of day or night. They expect to be called, and will help advise you regarding the funeral service. In a case when death is imminent, please call soon enough so that prayers and comfort may be offered even before death occurs.
- Then, call or allow the pastor/vicar to call your funeral director. It would be advantageous, while in good health, to decide which funeral home is desired. Other arrangements regarding one's funeral could also be made long in advance, and a copy kept on file in the church office (the office has forms for suggested information).
- Only ashes are to be interred. The ashes are to be buried about one foot deep (no scattering of ashes on the surface).
- The church takes no responsibility for keeping records of the actual location of ash burial.

To help defray the cost of maintaining the "Garden of Faith," contributions may be made to the "Garden of Faith" Endowment Fund, perhaps in lieu of flowers. These and other gifts will help us make possible the hospitality of the Garden to those in need of consolation.

If you wish an information sheet or more information, please call or write:

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