

# *First Congregational Church*

*United Church of Christ  
Bristol, Connecticut*



*The Memorial Garden*

## *The Memorial Garden*

In 1951, construction began on the Lena Forbes Barnes Wing which includes a beautiful chapel. Upon its completion in 1953, a garden was created in the space between the Sanctuary and the Chapel. In 1991, the garden was re-landscaped with funds from the *"Book of Remembrance"*. At that time, the Diaconate also designed this area to become the Memorial Garden with certain areas to be used for the interment of ashes. The guiding concept of the Memorial Garden is to provide a simple, dignified memorial for the remains of loved ones placed there. It is also to be a place for rest, meditation and prayer.

## *Burial Right Certificates*

Burial Right Certificates are available any time through the church office. This precludes decisions having to be made under stress and emotion at the time of death.

Within the garden, certain specific areas have been reserved for the interment of ashes. Each burial plot is large enough to accommodate two interments if desired. Cost of one interment is \$500. Cost of two in the same plot is \$600. This includes opening and closing the plot and recording the deceased's name on the granite bench. These costs reflect 2009 costs.

After interment, the exact location of the burial plot is recorded in a permanent church document. The deceased's name, date of birth and death is inscribed on the surface of the granite benches located on either side of the garden.

## *Who May Use the Garden?*

The Memorial Garden is for the use of church members, their families and friends of the church who may request interment.

## *Memorial Book*

A Memorial Book has been established and is maintained by the Diaconate to record information about those interred. The Committee will enter basic information, to be supplemented by material the family may wish to contribute. The Memorial Book is in the church office.

## *Memorial Gifts*

Memorial gifts are welcome and will be recorded in the Memorial Book. The initial cost of developing the garden was met by funds from the *Book of Remembrance* and future income is dedicated to the improvement and maintenance of the Garden and the building of a Perpetual Care Fund. Gifts in memory of those who have died may be made to this fund.

## *Administration*

Administration of the Memorial Garden and the Memorial Book is the responsibility of the Diaconate. This committee is charged with overseeing the care, maintenance and future development of the Memorial Garden.

*Further information and a copy of Rules and Regulations of the Memorial Garden may be obtained from the church office.*

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