

Coastal Virginia Unitarian Universalists Memorial Garden Reflection, Remembrance, Renew

7-18-22

What is the Memorial Garden?

The Memorial Garden, nestled in natural surroundings, provides a contemplative environment for reflection, meditation, and remembrance of members of the CVUU community. The deck provides space for modest ceremonies and activities.

Where is the Memorial Garden located?

The Garden is located in the wooded area between the handicapped parking and the entrance lane to the church. To reach the Garden walk partially up the handicapped ramp and, instead of turning left, continue straight into the Memorial Garden. The Garden deck provides a place for quiet reflection, meditation, small ceremonies, activities, and enjoying the natural surroundings.

What is the purpose of the Memorial Garden?

Members and friends of CVUU find the Memorial Garden fulfills the desires of their mind and heart for remembrance and connection. People for whom CVUU was a meaningful part of their lives may memorialize their passage on this earth in the Garden.

The Memorial Garden provides a place for reflection about those who have worshiped with us and those who are friends and members of our CVUU community. Individuals may be recognized on the Memorial Garden Plaque to sustain individual connection with our community after their passing and remind us of them. Individuals may also choose to have a portion of their remains scattered in the area.

Who may use the Memorial Garden?

CVUU members, present and past, members' immediate family or companions, and friends of CVUU.

How do I make arrangements for a Memorial Service?

Please contact our minister by telephone at 757-627-5371, extension 3 or via email at minister@c-vuu.org to make arrangements for a memorial service.

How do I make arrangements for spreading cremains and acknowledgment on the Memorial Garden Plaque?

Please contact the Church Administrator at 757-627-5371, ext 1 or email office@c-vuu.org.

How are cremains to be scattered?

A small portion of cremains (one third cup) may be scattered in the Garden, without individual markers. For the health of the grounds, the cremains must be mixed in a 1- to -3 ratio with an organic product which will assist with the decomposition of the ashes in the natural environment. CVUU will provide the product.

May previously deceased members of the church be memorialized?

Yes. Family and friends of the deceased may make the arrangements at any time.

As a memorial, may I plant a tree or add statuary in the Memorial Garden?

Due to the extensive existing vegetation and the limited size of the Garden, these types of additions are not allowed.

May I use the Memorial Garden and deck for regular CVUU activities?

The deck and Memorial Garden are available for ceremonies, gatherings, music, singing and other activities. All uses must be scheduled with the Church Administrator at least 30 days in advance. The activity must be scheduled in coordination with any other uses in the area, including the parking lot and Gathering Area.

What are the general guidelines for Activities in the Memorial Garden?

The sexton or a church member can provide access to the bathrooms inside the church. All event organizers are responsible for post event cleanup of the deck and the Memorial Garden.

What fees are involved?

For members and former members in good standing there are no fees for spreading of cremains and adding a personal name plate to the Memorial Garden plaque. For non-members, the fee is the actual cost for the materials for spreading of cremains and creating a personal name plate. Donations are welcome.