

Memorial Garden Policy

Session approved the following policies and protocols for the operation of the newly installed and dedicated Memorial Garden.

The Memorial Garden of the Grove Presbyterian Church will be used to bury cremated remains of:

1. Grove members and members of their family
2. Former members
3. Others who have a justified reason as approved by Session
4. A section of the Garden to be reserved to bury the cremains of stillborns and infants from Geisinger whose parents have no burial place for their children.

Any burial service or rites will be planned with the Pastor.

At burial, a hole, approx. 2' deep and 6" wide, will be dug for the placement of the cremains. After placement, the hole will be covered with top soil and mulch. No container or urn will be buried, only loose ashes. A map will be maintained in the Church Office to indicate the general area where someone is buried.

A plaque with the names and dates of the deceased person may be placed on the stone pier. These plaques shall be uniform and ordered through the Church Office.

There shall be a budget line item to cover maintenance costs associated with the Garden.

There shall be a standing committee appointed by Session and to include one Elder to manage the Garden regarding:

1. Maintenance (weeding, mulching, pruning, etc.)
2. Plantings
3. Burials
4. Name Plaques
5. All other thing associated with the Garden.

There shall be a charge of \$500.00 for burial which shall be paid by the family representative of the descendent. This will include the cost of the plaque and is meant to help cover the maintenance costs. This fee may be waived at the direction of Session. Prepayment is acceptable.

Functions to be held in the Garden will follow the Church Use Policy. Session approval will be required for uses other than Church functions.

RULES:

1. There will be no additional plantings to memorialize a loved one. Additional plantings will be the domain of the Memorial garden Committee.
2. Cut flowers will be removed in a timely fashion after the interment/service.

Seasonal decorations are discouraged. Anything placed in the garden seasonally will be removed