



Regulations for the Administration of the Memorial Garden

The Swarthmore Presbyterian Church
727 Harvard Avenue
Swarthmore, Pa. 19081
610-543-4712

The Memorial Garden of the Swarthmore Presbyterian Church has been established for rest, meditation, and prayer, and for the interment of cremated remains of current and former members of Swarthmore Presbyterian Church and members of the clergy who are, or have been, active in Swarthmore Presbyterian Church (hereinafter collectively referred to as Members). The Memorial Garden is church property and is a non-commercial venture. It is not a cemetery. Lots will not be sold, nor deeds issued.

- **Persons Eligible:** The Memorial Garden is intended for the use of members and their spouses and children.
- **Interment of Cremated Remains:** No particular place in the Memorial Garden may be designated in advance. At the time of interment, family members may select a location within the garden. No permanent record of the place of interment shall be kept. If a container is used for interment, it must be biodegradable, or the remains may be scattered within the garden. In accordance with Borough Ordinance 624.02, no firearms may be discharged as part of an interment service.
- **Markers:** The name and year of birth and death of each person interred in the Garden will be listed on an appropriate marker. No title will be included on the markers. These individual nameplates will be of uniform design designated by the church and will be displayed permanently in chronological order according to date of death on the stone wall in the Memorial Garden. This will be the only marker or memorial permitted.

In the event that the remains have been contributed for scientific purposes, a member shall be entitled to have a marker in accordance with the regulations.

- The church business office shall be responsible for receiving and recording applications, collecting and recording remittances, and ordering markers. Preparing the interment site and ensuring marker placement are the responsibility of the Building Superintendent.

- Donations and Fees: Each person wishing to have cremated remains interred or scattered in the garden, or to have a marker, shall make a donation of at least \$350.00 for each individual toward the perpetual care of the garden at the time of application. Donations are considered contributions to the Church and are tax deductible. At the time of interment, a fee of \$200.00 plus the cost of an approved marker will be charged. In appropriate cases of need, the Session may, upon the recommendation of the pastor, reduce or waive the donation or the fee, or both. The required donation and fees shall be reviewed from time to time by the Memorials and Gifts Committee which can make recommendations for change to the Session for action.
- The clerk of Session shall record the names and dates of birth, death, and interment of all cremated remains, or of markers (without remains), placed in the Memorial Garden.
- The Property Committee shall supervise the planting and maintenance of the Garden.
- The Memorials and Gifts Committee, with the approval of the Session, shall decide all questions concerning the interpretation and administration of these regulations and may amend them from time to time.
- The Memorial Garden shall be operated out of the funds given for that purpose administered by the Finance Manager, and shall not normally draw on other funding from the operating budget.