



First Parish Church of Stow & Acton
353 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775
www.fpc-stow-acton.org
978-897-8149

FPC MEMORIAL GARDEN
INFORMATION & APPLICATION
(Revision: 12/26/23)

ABOUT THE GARDEN

The Memorial Garden is to be a place of memorialization and rest for our church community and a space of peace and contemplation for the larger community. The Garden is located at the northeast corner of the church property with planned access from both the church property and the Stow Town Center Park.

The operations of the FPC Memorial Garden are intended to be self-supporting. Costs will be met from fees for memorialization services provided. The design and build of the Memorial Garden is to be phased to ensure initial costs are in keeping with services provided. Management is provided by the Memorial Garden Committee of the First Parish Church of Stow and Acton under the oversight of the Board of Trustees.

TYPES OF PARTICIPATION

Pre-planning: Those wishing to arrange in advance for the occasion of their own death can pre-pay at the current rates. The church will, upon notification of their death, place their name and dates on a memorial wall plaque or paver or bench and inter or scatter their ashes as arranged. The same advanced arrangements can be made for any other immediate family members.* Records will be maintained by the church of all pre-planned arrangements.

Memorialization: Those wishing to honor a loved one already deceased can arrange for memorialization through a memorial plaque on the wall, interment with a paver, and/or scattering of ashes as desired. Records will be maintained by the church.

***Immediate Family includes: parents, siblings, spouse/partner, and children**

WHO TO CONTACT

Inquiries can be directed to the members of the Memorial Garden Committee by contacting the church administrator by email: office@fpc-stow-acton.org, or phone: **978-897-8149**

Description of Options

The options offered by the Memorial Garden are described below. The fees for each option are listed on the application.

The fee structure is intended to ensure the sustainability of the Memorial Garden on a long-term basis, and is intended to support: a) the continued enhancement and expansion of the garden; and b) preservation of the garden in perpetuity. The Memorial Garden is intended to be financially self-sustaining, met without obligating other church resources.

Scattering of Ashes Only (without Name on Memorial Paver or Plaque on Memorial Wall)

- Permission to scatter ashes in the scatter beds.
- Record maintained at the church in perpetuity.

Name on Memorial Plaque on Memorial Wall Only

- Name and dates engraved on a memorial plaque placed on the memorial wall.
- Record maintained at the church in perpetuity.

Scattering of Ashes plus name on Memorial Plaque

- Name and dates engraved on a memorial plaque placed on the memorial wall.
- Permission to scatter ashes in the scatter beds.
- Record maintained at the church in perpetuity.

Interment of Ashes plus name on Memorial Paver:

- Ashes can be interred in a dedicated location with a paver stone to mark the location of rest and inscribed with the deceased's name and dates. (Inscription method is yet to be determined.)
- *The ashes will be returned to the earth in a "green" container.
- Record of interment maintained at the church in perpetuity.

Interment of Ashes plus name on Memorial Paver plus a Memorial Plaque:

- Ashes can be interred in a dedicated location with a paver stone to mark the location of rest and inscribed with the deceased's name and dates.
- *The ashes will be returned to the earth in a "green" container.
- Record of interment maintained at the church in perpetuity.

* It is our intention to keep the fees for these options as low as possible, however there may be additional increases in the future as costs to maintain the Memorial Garden rise.

* Fees do not include ministerial services. Ministerial services are complimentary for church members. For current fees for friends and non-members, please inquire at the church office.

* Reduced rates based on financial need are available at the Minister's discretion.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- Individuals may be memorialized on a Memorial Plaque irrespective of where their remains are interred.
- The Memorial Garden is intended for the use of members and friends of FPC and their immediate family. Members of the larger community are not eligible for memorialization in the Memorial Garden.
- Information provided by the family is kept on file in the church office in perpetuity.



**First Parish Church of Stow & Acton
APPLICATION for the MEMORIAL GARDEN**

(Revision: 12/26/23)

APPLICANT NAME: _____

APPLICANT ADDRESS: _____

APPLICANT PHONE: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED: Self _____ Partner/spouse _____ Child _____ Sibling _____

MEMORIAL GARDEN SERVICES REQUESTED: CIRCLE CHOICE (see previous page for full descriptions & fees) TO BE PREPAID

	Price
Scattering of Ashes only	\$250
Name Plaque on Memorial Wall only	\$575
Scattering of Ashes plus Name Plaque on Memorial Wall	\$800
Interment of Ashes plus Name on Memorial Paver	\$1,750
Interment of Ashes plus Name on Memorial Paver and Name Plaque on Memorial Wall	\$2,000

NAME OF DECEASED OR RESERVATION: _____

(Please print clearly & exactly as you wish the Plaque to read)

YEAR OF BIRTH: _____

YEAR OF DEATH (leave blank if preplanning): _____

RELATIONSHIP TO FPC: _____

CURRENT MEMBER or FRIEND: _____ OTHER e.g. guardian, executor

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE FPC Memorial Garden Policies and Procedures, adopted by the FPC Memorial Garden Committee May, 2021, and attached to this application.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

DATE

FPC REPRESENTATIVE

DATE



NAMEPLATE REQUEST AGREEMENT~ FPC MEMORIAL GARDEN

First Parish Church has created a Memorial Garden to honor and remember the deceased loved ones of Members and Friends and their immediate families. There is an opportunity to purchase names on: a paver, or a plaque on the Memorial Wall.

Nameplates embossed with the years of birth and death of a deceased member or friend of FPC may be ordered using this form:

Nameplate requested by (please print): _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____ Email: _____

Date of request: _____

Name of deceased (as it is to appear on nameplate): _____

Year of birth: _____ Year of death: _____

Kindly make checks out to FPC (with Memorial Garden on the Memo line) and return this form to the church. To reserve the spot on the Memorial Wall next to a loved one's nameplate, the nameplate fee must be paid in advance. The church will keep a record of the reserved spaces and a listing of members memorialized in the garden with plaques and the nameplate locations.

Note: All policies and property rights with respect to the memorial nameplates, including their design, inscription, location, and maintenance, are the sole responsibility of FPC. Neither the representatives nor the deceased's estate shall obtain any interest or ownership in the memorial nameplate or garden. This allows FPC in the future to act in accordance with any new policies occasioned by new conditions. It is the intention of FPC that the Memorial Garden be properly maintained in perpetuity in honor of those who have passed before us. The nameplates may be affixed to the Memorial Wall in groups, at a convenient time.

**Immediate Family members include: spouse/partner, children and siblings.*

Signature of Requester: _____

(for church use) Check amount: _____ **Date payment received:** _____

Date nameplate ordered: _____ **Date Minister notified:** _____

If prepaid, nameplates and plaques will be affixed at the time of the Garden's dedication. Afterwards, nameplates and plaques will be affixed in the Memorial Garden twice yearly.