

First Unitarian Church of Orlando
“Garden of Remembrance” Guidelines

The Garden of Remembrance serves as a place of remembrance and reflection.

Who May Use the Garden and Be Memorialized in the Space?

Members and pledging friends of the congregation and their immediate family members are welcome to be memorialized on the wall and use the garden for services or for spreading ashes. This includes memorializing their pets. Any ceremonial use of the garden associated with the installation of a memorial leaf or rock or spreading of ashes, must be arranged in advance through the church office. Those using the garden are expected to leave it in its original condition. No plantings or benches are to be moved, removed, or otherwise damaged.

Fees

Members or pledging friends pay the cost for a memorial name plate/leaf on the Tree of Life at the current cost. The cost at this time is \$200 to cover the engraving and installation as well as the ongoing garden maintenance cost. The name plate shall include only the name and date of birth and death. The church will arrange for the engraving of the leaf once the paperwork and fee have been completed.

To memorialize a companion animal, the cost will be \$30 to install a pet rock (natural rock only) purchased by the owner. The owner is responsible for purchasing the rock (4"-6" in size) and having it engraved. An example of a company that provides this service is www.4everinmyheart.com with the current 2025 cost for a 4"-6" engraved rock being \$50. Rocks installed in the garden are for pets only. The church will secure the rock in the garden.

In cases of financial hardship, the church may reduce or waive the fee.

Individuals may purchase a leaf on the Tree of Life prior to being memorialized, including their name and birth date. The death date will be added prior to a memorial service after family or friends have notified the church office.

The spreading of ashes without purchasing a nameplate is free with permission from the church.

Ashes

The cost of spreading ashes by members and pledging friends is included in the cost for the nameplate or installation of a stone. The space south of the walkway is set aside for this purpose. No other objects are to be placed in the garden as part of memorializing a person or pet.

Complete the Forms

Anyone desiring to purchase a leaf for the Tree of Life, have a pet rock installed, or complete End of Life or Memorial Service wishes should fill out the applicable forms available at the office or using the links on the 1U webpage, [here](#).

Maintenance

The Garden of Remembrance Task Force in conjunction with the Buildings and Grounds Team plans and maintains the garden's hardscape and plantings in compliance with the approved master plan.