

# Memorial Garden

It was suggested that Hosanna create a Memorial Garden on our church property.

A **memorial garden** is a church garden with a set-apart section in which cremated ashes are poured directly into the ground and covered by grass or a groundcover vine; these ashes are commingled with other ashes and with soil, in a tangible symbol of the communion of saints. In memorial gardens, there is a plaque somewhere nearby on which the names and dates can be inscribed. It is common to install a fountain in the memorial garden, which symbolizes our Baptism in living water and is often comforting to the bereaved. It is also common to have some benches, so people can sit and meditate. (ELCA website)

The Memorial Garden would provide a Christian setting for the interment of cremation ashes and would be intended to serve the needs of members and immediate family of Hosanna's congregation.

The garden would be administered by a Memorial/Historical Committee with approval by Church Council. Maintenance would be the responsibility of the Property Committee.

## Proposed Terms and Conditions

1. No permanent containers can be used to inter ashes.
2. Ashes are buried in a common area within the garden. No markers will identify the location of specific remains. A permanent Memorial Plaque, bearing the deceased's name and dates of birth and death would be located inside the church.
3. Should future sale or redevelopment of church property require building over the site, Hosanna Lutheran Church will not be responsible for relocation of the garden ground or for notifying the families concerned.
4. No tangible memorial items can be placed in the Garden, including fresh or artificial flowers and plants, wreaths or ornamental objects. Memorial bouquets of fresh flowers are welcome in the Sanctuary.

A proposed fee of \$250.00, payable to the Memorial Garden Fund would be requested. This will cover the cost of opening and closing, a brass nameplate on the memorial Plaque and the ongoing care and maintenance of the Memorial garden. (Author acknowledges the Terms and Conditions and costs taken from St Andrews United Church)

The garden would be situated on the north side of the Peace Hall.

I also suggest that we name it **Bev Boren Memorial Garden**.

Council voted to present the garden idea to the congregation and created a task force consisting of Johanna Borle, Doreen Betke, Colleen Vogel and Rick Hernder

The task force met and toured the property and suggested the best place for a memorial garden would be on the north side of the Peace Hall midway between the sidewalk and the

parking lot. The task force toured several Memorial Gardens in the west end of Edmonton to see what other congregations have done.

A landscape designer was commissioned to create a drawing of the garden. It was reviewed by the task force and approved. Drawing attached.

Costs were obtained for the proposed garden. Estimated cost for the garden is \$6000 (see appendix A for estimated costs).

Presentation for the congregation at the pre-annual meeting to start discussion.

Call a special meeting of the congregation to vote.

If approved by the congregation, the memorial garden would be built.

#### Appendix A

Curved bench	2300
Large centre rock and placement	1500
Shrubs and plants	500
Edging and mulch	500
Plaque (inside church)	500
Landscape designer	250
Contingencies'	250
Total	6000





# MEMORIAL GARDEN HOSANNA LUTHERAN CHURCH

SCALE  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'$

