



✚ Upon burial, the death certificate and cremation certificate provided by the mortuary must be filed with the Saugatuck Township office. The church will also keep two copies.

✚ A bronze plaque placed on the Memorial Wall will recognize the deceased's name and dates of birth and death. The size and design of the plaque are standard. Any additional text must be approved by the Church Council.

The deceased's family will bear the cost of the plaque, which will be determined at the time it is ordered.

Memorial and Meditation Garden

Douglas Congregational
United Church of Christ

56 Wall Street
PO Box 519
Douglas MI 49406

616-857-2085

A progressive, open and
affirming church where
everyone welcome – no
exceptions.

Services at 10:00 AM every
Sunday

"God gave us memories so
that we might have roses in
winter."

L.M. Davis

Memorial and Meditation Garden

Douglas Congregational United
Church of Christ



The memorial and meditation garden provides a place for reflection and prayer to honor those interred here.

The following explanations and guidelines will assist you and your family when deciding on your or your loved ones interment.

- ✦ Arrangements for cremation and transportation of cremains to the church must be made in consultation with a licensed mortuary that must provide certificates of death and of cremation.
- ✦ Arrangements for a funeral and burial must be made with the church pastor.



- ✦ To provide perpetual beautification, care and maintenance of the Memorial Garden, an application fee will apply to members, longstanding friends of the church, and others. Application fees may be paid in advance to protect against potential increases.
- ✦ Fresh flower memorials may be placed in designated containers below the memorial wall, knowing that faded flowers will be removed at the church's discretion.
- ✦ Annual flowers may be planted. Bushes, trees, perennial, and/or artificial flowers are not permitted.

- ✦ The deceased is entitled to two pages of the Church Book of Life, which is on permanent display in the sanctuary near the entry doors.

Family and friends may fill these pages with photographs and other tributes that permanently memorialize the loved one.

While the book is always available in the sanctuary, the book may not be removed from the church.



3-2 Policy – Memorial Garden Guidelines

Arrangements for cremation and transportation of cremains to the church must be made in consultation with a licensed Mortuary facility. The Mortuary will provide a death certificate and certificate of cremation.

Arrangements for a funeral and burial service should be made in consultation with the church Pastor.

Upon Burial, the death certificate and cremation certificate provided by the Mortuary shall be filed with the Saugatuck township office. The Church shall keep two copies; one filed at the church and another filed at the Retreat House.

Ashes are to be placed directly into the ground in designated areas. The exact location will not be marked in any way. It is understood that relocating the ashes in the future will not be feasible as they will be commingled with other remains.

A space on the Memorial Wall for a plaque to recognize the deceased shall be provided. All plaques shall be cast bronze, uniform in size and design; with deceased name, date of birth and date of death. Any additional text must be approved by the Church. Plaques must be ordered by the Church and installed by the church Trustee. The cost of the plaque will be determined at the time of order and is the responsibility of the deceased's family.

To provide perpetual beautification, care and maintenance of the Memorial Garden, an application fee of \$200 shall be charged to church members and friends; a fee of \$400 shall be charged to all others. Costs are subject to change, but may be paid in advance to protect against future cost increases.

Fresh flower memorials may be placed in designated containers below the Memorial Wall, with faded flowers removed at the discretion of the church trustees. Annual flowers may be planted, but bushes, shrubs trees, perennial and artificial flowers are not permitted. Monetary donations for seasonal planting of the flower urn will be gratefully accepted.

The deceased shall be entitled to two pages in the Church Book of Life which is on permanent display in the Church sanctuary. The family may select photographs, letters and other tributes to be inserted in the pages as a permanent memorial to the deceased. The Book of Life is regularly available in the church, but may not be taken from the premises.

Application for Burial of Cremains

56 Wall Street - PO Box 519 -Douglas, MI 49406 - 616.857.2085

*"God gave us memories so that we might have roses in winter. " –J.M
Barrie*

This application for the burial of cremains assures that a burial site has been provided, along with a space for recognition on the Memorial Wall.

Cremains are placed directly into the ground; interment containers are not permitted. The exact location of interned cremains will not be marked in any way.

The names of the faithful departed who rest in the Memorial and Meditation Garden can be recorded on a bronze plaque, to be added to the Memorial Wall within the garden.

Two pages in the Memorial Book of Life will be available for those who wish to record memories of the deceased's life. The book will be on permanent display at the back of church.

Application fee \$_____ - provides perpetual beautification, care and maintenance of the Memorial Garden. (For current fee structure, reference Church Policy 3-2.)

Bronze Plaque fee \$_____ - cost of the plaque will be determined at the time of order and is the responsibility of the deceased's family.

Enclosed is the amount of \$_____ payable to the Douglas Congregational UCC Memorial and Meditation Garden.

I hereby request the burial site for the remains of: Name (Please Print)

Date of

Birth

Death

Signature:

Date

Witnesses:

Date

Date

Copies of the document go to the church and to the applicant.