Purpose:
The Memorial Garden (MG) of The Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills (UUCNH) is primarily a place to remember those who were important in our lives, a place of spiritual repose, a place of connection between then and now, and a place for contemplation of what comes next. But it is also a space for celebrating life’s joyous occasions and for strengthening our connections to each other and to the natural world.

Policy:
1. Only Members or Friends of the Church or their immediate family may be memorialized or have their cremains buried or scattered in the Garden. A separate area for burial or scattering the cremains of pets may be designated on the church grounds at some future time.
2. No memorial or cremains burial or cremains scattering is permitted without the approval of the Memorial Garden Committee or their designee, and agreement to pay the fees and abide by the rules regarding such use.
3. Placement of memorials and cremains is limited to areas designated for these distinct uses in the MG plan.
4. Memorial and burial sites will be assigned by the Memorial Garden Committee or their designee according to the MG plan. Any burials under or in close proximity to plantings must be in a biodegradable container and will not be relocated when such plantings are removed or replaced.
5. Memorials must follow the MG guidelines including such things as material, size, fonts, color, hole size, plant species, placement, etc.
6. All ground opening for burials, plantings, etc. will be performed by or overseen by the church maintenance staff or their designee.
7. All burials, scatterings, and other memorials will be recorded in the church’s Memorial Book of honorees. Biographical information about the deceased must be supplied for inclusion in the book. At minimum name and birth and death dates are required. A photograph may be included.
8. Use and maintenance of the MG shall be subject to the exclusive direction and control of the Board or its designees. UUCNH may alter, modify or relocate the MG and any related memorial or buried cremains.
9. The MG space can be included in church events and in rentals of the Church and grounds.
10. Exceptions to these rules will be decided by the Board of Trustees after discussion with the Chair of the MG Committee.

Approved by the UUCNH Board of Trustees, February 18, 2020.