

The Chalice Pathway at Live Oak UU Church

3315 El Salido

Cedar Park, Texas

Rules for Use as a Memorial Garden

Use of the memorial garden for the scattering/burying of cremation ashes and/or the placement of memorial markers shall be open to all members and friends of Live Oak UU Church, or other Unitarian Universalists and their families. All scattered ashes should be placed within the oak knoll circle. If ashes are buried they should be put into the earth without or in a biodegradable container. Always, at least some of the ashes should be scattered on the surface of the land. The ashes become part of the living garden and CANNOT be recovered in the future.

We are asking for a *fee of not less than \$500 in the form of* a donation made to Live Oak UU Church, with Chalice Pathway Fund in the memo line. Pledging Live Oak members or friends may ask for a discount. This money plus any funds made as a memorial donation will be used for the maintenance and improvement of the grounds. It will be for the sole purpose of conducting a committal service and not for “perpetual or eternal” sheltering, it will not buy any property rights.

In the event that, at some future time, the congregation would have to move or be dissolved the memorial garden would change, be relocated

or dismantled. In the case of a move we would take a small part of the soil from the oak knoll as a symbolic sample to the new location. Markers or benches could be recovered by family members still in touch with the church.

Those wishing to establish stone markers should select plain flat stones put parallel to the ground. The size of the stone should not be more than approximately 250 square inches. Metallic markers up to 150 square inches would also be acceptable. A member of the Chalice Pathway committee will have to approve the text. The applicant pays for the marker.

While we encourage the planting of wildflowers, there is no irrigation system in place. We do not allow any artificial plants or flowers. Potted live plants must be removed by the donor once they have faded.

We will ask for birth and death dates and some biographical information of the persons whose ashes we accept. The congregation will make a good faith effort to keep a record of the placements. We will not, however, document the exact location of the scattering. You are welcome to visit during daylight hours, but we cannot accept any liability for your safety on our property nor the loss or damage of the markers.

Memory Book

A commemorative memory book will be maintained by the Chalice Pathway Committee. This will be kept at Live Oak Church and will give families and friends the opportunity to celebrate their loved one's life

with photographs and a brief biography. This book shall also contain the names of contributors to the Chalice Pathway Fund or to Live Oak Church who gave a donation *of at least \$100* as a memorial gift.

Application Procedure

Anyone wishing to use the Live Oak Chalice Pathway to establish a memorial shall contact the church administrator or a member of the Chalice Pathway Committee and the minister. We will supply a copy of the rules and give a tour of the garden, if requested.

Before any ashes can be scattered, an application has to be signed, and a donation to the church will have to be received. The location has to be agreed upon; the design of the stone will have to be accepted. The date of the interment of the ashes shall be provided.

We welcome and encourage entries into the Memory Book.

Three copies of the agreement will be created: one for the purchaser, one for the church administrator, and one for the Chalice Pathway files.

Application Form for the Interring of Ashes in the Memorial Garden of Live Oak UU Church, Cedar Park, Texas

I request the permission to disperse the ashes of my in the memorial garden of Live Oak UU Church. I have been given a copy of the rules and restrictions and I accept them.

Name of the applicant

Address

Phone number

Email address

Name of the deceased

Birth and death dates

Date and signature of the applicant

Date and signature of Church *Minister or the designated representative* after *the ashes have been scattered*, the memorial has been established.

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Possible Materials for Markers.

While regular plain grave stones are acceptable we like to have natural looking stones. Ideally these would be stones polished by nature, and it is sometimes possible to find those. An easy alternative can be found at places that sell paving stones. There are several places along RR620, the biggest is at 3700 RR620 on the other side of Lake Travis. To be suitable for engraving the surface needs to be quite smooth. We have worked with Dietz Memorial, at 2801 Hancock Dr and have found them to be helpful. Certainly, there are other companies.

Easy Method for Installing Stone Markers.

Stone markers, unless they are very heavy, should be cemented to the ground. To do that, dig a hole about a foot deep, narrower than the stone to be installed, 8 to 10 inches is enough. Fill the hole with dry concrete mix, the type used for installing fence posts. Place the stone marker over the filled hole, making contact with the mix. Pour on generous amounts of water. The moisture will seep into the concrete mix and cause it to harden. Make sure the stone is level.

If it is desired to bury ashes under the stone, make the hole a little deeper and pour in the ashes under the cement. If this seems too harsh, line the hole with green leaves and cover the ashes with flowers before finishing. To follow the letter of the law, scatter some of the ashes around the stone.