

FAQs about the Westminster Gardening Project

Q What is the purpose of the garden?

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- To produce fresh vegetables to share with the hungry of our community. Weekly harvests will be collected for the Riverside Community Gathering Wednesday night meal. Additional groups identified to receive fresh vegetables from our garden include Hope Clinic and Food Gatherers.
 - To provide a sacred space for the neighborhood. Our garden design will include a prayer walk with Scripture verses for quiet reflection.
 - To educate. Families are encouraged to participate in the planning and care of the garden teaching stewardship and care of God's creation, the process of food provision from seed to plate, nutritional benefits of naturally grown food and the importance of gardening for sustainable communities. Sunday school teachers are encouraged to creatively use the garden to bring to life agricultural teachings of Jesus. Where possible, biblical herbs and plants will be incorporated into the garden.
 - To join other faith-based congregations as a partner of the Faith and Food Network of Washtenaw County. For more information about this initiative, see the Growing Hope website: www.growinghope.net/projects/FaithandFood.shtml

Q Where will the garden be?

A Tentatively, the garden will be located in the northwest corner of the property near the pine trees, with vegetable gardens on either side of the sidewalk. There is a water source nearby, the pine trees provide privacy for the sacred space, and this location provides good sun. Before digging begins, the neighbors will be invited into the conversation and the utility companies will be contacted.

Q What will the design of the garden look like?

A This is still yet to be determined. If you are interested in submitting a garden design, your ideas are most welcome! Pictures of the location are on the website, but a walk through the area will be helpful for your design process. Designs should be clearly marked and placed in the Mission Committee mailbox by Easter Sunday for consideration. Designs will be chosen for efficient vegetable production, aesthetic quality, maintainability, and incorporation of natural landscape.

Q How will the garden be maintained?

A Care and maintenance of the garden will be provided by anyone in the congregation with a passion to participate. The hope and dream is that this ministry will be multigenerational.

Q How can I be a part of this exciting "growing" ministry?

A The large bulletin board in the entrance to the fellowship hall is currently dedicated to this project. Add your name to the growing list of interested people and look for more details to come! For more information, please see one of the following people: Gail Arnold, Robin Hess, Arthur Howard, Marie Howard, Jeff Kaiser, Joanne Keeling, Pastor King.

