

## MEMORIAL ROSE

### Policy

When a member of Metropolitan United Church or an extended family member of one of our members has passed during the previous week, they are recognized with a Memorial Rose displayed in the Sanctuary during the Sunday morning worship services.

### Background

Years ago the Pastoral Care Committee of Session established the Memorial Rose process to honour individual Metropolitan members who passed during the week between Sunday morning worship services.

Through the years, Metropolitan has recorded the names of deceased members and deceased extended family members of our Church members. Metropolitan has ensured that individual Memorial Roses have been placed into 'single rose' vases to honour deceased individuals during Sunday morning worship services. This custom continues today. Metropolitan's special recognition of our departed members has generated countless letters and personal comments.

### Procedures

1. A volunteer member of Metropolitan checks the local newspaper obituaries daily so as not to miss any of our members' names. The church office also informs the volunteer of names of deceased members.
2. After typing the name of the deceased member on a card, and purchasing a single rose on a Friday afternoon, the volunteer Coordinator brings both to the Church. Occasionally there is more than one name on the card.
3. The Memorial Rose is placed into water in a vase, and the card is mounted in a wooden card holder. Both are placed on a shelf in the Great Room next to the Sunday morning Sanctuary flowers if they have been ordered. The Coordinator informs the Custodian that a Memorial Rose is ready for Sunday morning.
4. Before the first worship service begins, the Custodian sets up a small table in front of the pulpit for the doily, Memorial Rose and card. The Coordinator prepares and places a note with the name(s) of the individual being honoured on the Minister of Pastoral Care's lectern.
5. During the worship services, the Minister of Pastoral Care dedicates the Memorial Rose.
6. After the second worship service, the volunteer Coordinator encourages family members of the deceased individual to take the Memorial Rose home. If no one does, it is placed on the counter outside the church office as a reminder that we have lost a Metropolitan member.
7. The vase, doily and card holder are stored on a wooden shelf in the Great Room. The small table is stored in the choir loft.
8. In June each year, the volunteer Coordinator of Metropolitan reviews this policy and sends it to the Board of Elders for approval, if changes are made.

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Group/Committee Responsible:	Current Coordinator and Senior Minister