

Gardener's Agreement Form

The garden space located at South Cherry and Oakhurst Streets is provided by the Board of Trustees of Main Street Methodist Church. Management of the **Garden of Promise** is under the direction of a leadership team comprised of a Coordinator and three or more volunteer gardeners who are actively engaged in the project. This "community garden" is subdivided into 15 or more allotment Plots (average size 10 feet by 25 feet) for use by a gardener/family for one calendar year.

Gardeners participating in the Garden of Promise community garden agree to the following guidelines:

- 1-Attend the annual **Spring Kickoff** meeting to receive initial assignment of garden space. (All garden Plots are prioritized and assigned annually by the Coord/Team.) A \$20 contribution for water is due with this Form.
- 2-Respect the garden space of others; avoid planting crops that will shade or overrun adjacent Plots during the growing season.
- 3-No *perennial* crops are allowed in the Garden. Perennials interfere with the annual plowing required for Spring planting. (Exception: existing metal beds maintained for educating youth and residents.) No constructed raised beds.
- 4- Plant and maintain crops in a manner consistent with the mission of the Garden and recommended horticultural practices.
- 5-The entire community garden will be plowed after January 15. All trellis structures, wire cages, stakes, wire or nylon strings should be removed from plots by the end of the season (Dec 31). Relay your timeline to the Coordinator.
6. Equipment, tools and other items left in the shed are for use in the community garden only; *use them at the risk of the gardener*. Please clean tillers/tools after each use; purchase fuel for operating. (MSUMC reserves the right to use the property at any time; no leasing or ownership of the property. *The Church is not liable for stolen or damage items.*)
- 7-All chemical/pesticide applications must be pre-approved by the Coordinator.
- 8-Timely harvesting of garden Plot is required. The Coordinator/Team will assist. Please keep grass areas free of garden waste/unusable vegetables so grass can be mowed by lawn care company. Use the designated space for waste/composting.
- 9-Weeding is a necessary part of gardening. Please use appropriate methods to manage weeds throughout the season. (Mulches, hand removal, fabric, etc.) The use of Roundup/Glyphosate products is prohibited during the growing season.
- 10-Irrigation or hand watering is necessary for healthy crops. Please conserve water (short watering intervals, drip irrigation; straw mulch, paper/fabric mulch).
- 11-Donations to the Garden are welcomed. (Main St. UMC handles donations.)
- 12-Gardeners are encouraged to share surplus vegetables with UMC Bethany Café, Salvation Army and similar community food pantry programs.

**ENJOY YOUR GARDEN PLOT AND THE FRIENDS WHO GARDEN
ALONGSIDE YOU!**

I have read the Agreement Form and understand that failure to abide by the guidelines can result in loss of my garden Plot.

Hold Harmless Agreement: *I understand that gardening can present some risks to participants. I agree to work in the Garden of Promise at my own risk and will not hold the Main St. UMC liable for injury related to using my allotted Plot.*

Name (Print) _____
Signature _____