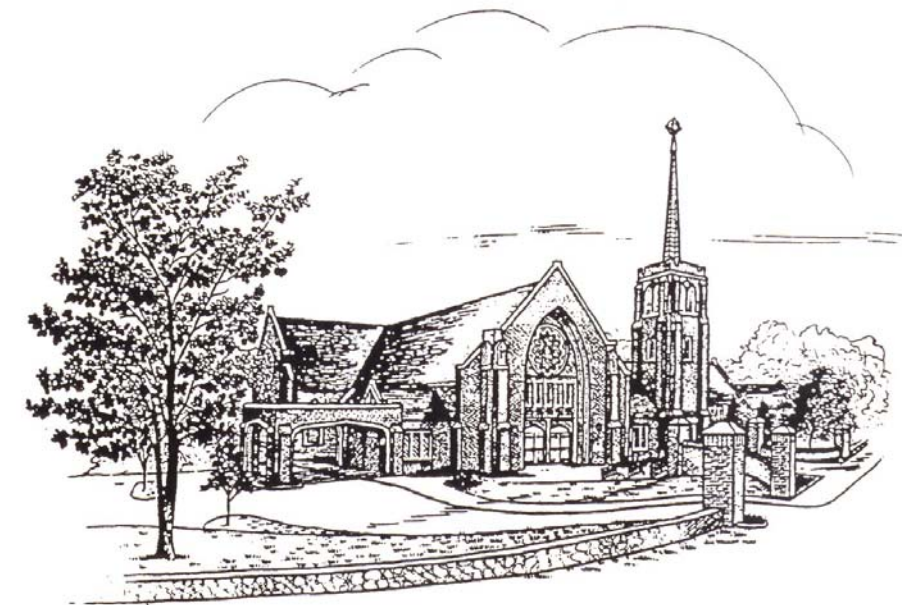




*Renderings by
TWH Architects, Inc.*

Memorial Garden and Columbarium



Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church

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Memorial Garden and Columbarium

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*“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth,
for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...
I saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem...” Revelation 21*

Over the past twenty years church members have proposed to the Session the creation of a memorial garden and columbarium for those within this church family. While other committees addressed the interest with positive consideration, a more recent committee appointed by the Session presented a plan for such an implementation. The Elders and Trustees have approved the creation of a “Memorial Garden and Columbarium” to be located in a consecrated area behind the Sanctuary in the very shadow of the Church, much as was the situation in the past century when church cemeteries were common.

The Memorial Garden and Columbarium will provide a special place where beloved church members and families may be interred. The location is a protected environment resting in the heart of this campus with the church edifices of worship, teaching, and fellowship surrounding.

As physical death is pondered, one may choose several options: bodily interment, cremation, or donation for medical science (with remains being returned for interment). Each of these choices are acceptable options for the Christian.

*“Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed,
we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven,
not built by human hands.” II Corinthians 5:1*

The Memorial Garden and Columbarium will be a selection for those choosing cremation, but also for those who made other choices. The Memorial Garden and Columbarium will feature:

- Garden space for a wall of niches for loved ones’ physical remains,
- Garden space for placement of physical remains returned to the earth, and
- Memorial Garden wall plaques memorializing loved ones whose physical remains are elsewhere.

The Memorial Garden and Columbarium will provide a consecrated place for the saints of God to be returned to the creation from whence we came. It will provide a place for a lasting memorial for generations to come within the comfort of the Church.

*“...you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken;
you are dust and to dust you shall return.” Genesis 3:19*



Questions About the Memorial Garden and Columbarium

Who may be memorialized in the Garden and Columbarium?

- Church members of Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church
- Spouses, Children, Grandchildren, and Parents of Church members
- Current or former Pastors, their spouses, or children

May members pre-arrange space?

Unquestionably! Plans and arrangements for one’s physical death is a gift to your family. Church members may pre-purchase space in the Memorial Garden and Columbarium by choosing the preferred choice of niches which hold the ashes or interment in the earth.

Memorial plaques do not require pre-selection and may be chosen at any time.

What does a Niche reservation include?

Niches are not necessarily ‘purchased’; they are considered ‘reserved’. The reservation of a niche with payment confers the right to use the niche in perpetuity and in accordance with the Policies and Procedures. No title or right of ownership is conveyed with a niche reservation as in real estate property. In addition to the niche payment, there remains the cost of cremation and the cost of the urn, which is paid to a funeral home.

Are spaces transferrable?

No. The right of the reservation is personal and retained only by the person(s) designated on the Certificate of Reservation. Spaces reserved may not be transferred to another person by sale, will, or gifting, except upon approval by the Church. The Church has a direct obligation to approve any transfer. The Church has no obligation to re-purchase a Certificate of Reservation, although the Church will consider the same upon written request.

Can an Urn be removed?

The cremated remains of a deceased individual placed in the Columbarium may be removed by the family member or person authorized by law upon written request and approved by the Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee, and only after payment is made to the Church for expenses associated with such removal.

Inscription on Niche Cover

Inscriptions will be in a uniform manner and will include:

Family name, first name, middle initial, date of birth, and date of death.

Memorial Garden and Columbarium Maintenance

The Memorial Garden and Columbarium will be of simple design and constructed of long-lasting materials which require little maintenance other than cleaning. The niche cover will be maintained in the total garden by the specifications in the Policies and Procedures.

Costs

At the time of a loved one’s death, contact must be made with a licensed funeral home, crematorium, or medical research facility. The procedures and care of remains are regulated by Tennessee statute. These state statutes regulate the processes of cremation and care of the remains. Those arrangements and costs are directly related between an individual and the licensed facility.

Costs related to the Church:

1. **Columbarium Niche:** 1 urn \$1600 ~ 2 urns \$2200
(future prices may vary related to cost increases)
2. **Interment** in Memorial Garden soil: \$600
3. **Memorial Wall Plaque** commemorating one buried elsewhere: \$600

This brochure is for general information only. The Policies and Procedures of the Memorial Garden and Columbarium of Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church is the controlling document.



Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee

Joe Ferguson, Elder & Trustee
Chairman, Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee
Patsy Hazlewood, Elder & Vice-Chairman
Tom Baird, Elder & Project Leader

Terry Blunt, Elder
Jim Collins
Nancy Davis
Bill Freels

Martha Freels
Doug Gregory, Deacon
Joyce Hill
Jeff Hollingsworth, Elder

John Langworthy, Elder
Colleen McCall
Frank Overton
Minni Lou Overton

Phyllis Steele, Elder
Nat Swann
Elizabeth Whitfield
Phil Whitfield, Elder & Architect