

Memorial Garden Burial Policies

*Grace Church in the Mountains
Waynesville, North Carolina*

1. Eligibility includes all members of Grace Church in the Mountains and their immediate families, or others upon approval of the rector and the vestry.
2. There will be a covenant, prepared and executed by the involved parties of each burial, setting forth the rights of the parties.
3. The burial service will be as prescribed by the rector of Grace Church in the Mountains, in consultation with the family, and in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Western North Carolina.
4. Grace Church is responsible for the care of the burial spaces and the memorial garden. We use monies from our operating budget and designated funds to do so. We have a Memorial/Thanksgiving/Honorarium Fund to which anyone can donate. Fees for each burial space are placed in this fund. Contributions to this fund are welcome at any time. Simply put "Memorial Fund" on the memo line of your check.
5. Landscape treatment will be provided only by designees of Grace Church. Memorial flowers may be placed in the church on any designated Sunday. Unless approved by the rector, memorial flowers may not be placed in the garden.
6. Columbarium interment spaces are available in the wall which borders the Memorial Garden. Spaces may be reserved by individuals or family groups. Assignments will be in accordance with the site holders' preference of available spaces.
 - A. The cost for a columbarium (wall) space will be for a fixed sum plus the current rate of a 3" x 10" bronze plaque.
 - B. Only two persons may be buried in the same space in the wall.
 - C. A container for ashes is required for burials in the wall (columbarium).
 - D. Columbarium vaults measure approximately 8" high by 8" deep by 14 ¾" wide. If multiple burials are planned, special consideration must be given in selecting sizes of containers (maximum 8" H by 8" D x 7" W each). A columbarium vault is limited to two containers. Any container is appropriate providing the dimensions fit the space.
7. In-ground burial spaces for ashes are available in the Memorial Garden. There shall be no family spaces provided or reserved in the columbarium. Reservations for interment may be made upon payment of the current rates with no choice of location. Burial will be in the next unused space.

- A. Urns must be biodegradable but normally cremains are opened and placed in the ground.
 - B. In-ground dimensions of urns shall not exceed 8"x8"x8".
8. Trinity Memorial Wall space may be purchased for a fixed sum plus the cost of the 2" x 10" bronze plaque at the time of purchase. The plaques will be placed in the inside of the Trinity Wall. Plaques may be purchased for deceased members in good standing or former members in good standing and their immediate families whose ashes are not interred in our Garden. All proceeds will go into the Memorial/Thanksgiving/Honorarium Fund.
9. The Church office will order the bronze plaques and inscription. The family will be billed for the plaque.
- A. All plaques shall be uniform size and color designated by Grace Church.
 - B. Plaques for the Trinity Memorial Wall are ordered at the request of the family representative(s). Plaques are ordered and paid for after burial.
 - C. The plaques for the columbarium spaces shall be placed on the wall where the ashes are interred. Plaques are ordered and paid for after burial.
 - D. The plaques for in-ground burial in the columbarium will be located on the walls surrounding the columbarium. Plaques are ordered and paid for after burial.
 - E. Inscriptions on the plaques will be limited to the name and dates of birth and death.
10. Other costs (cremation, containers, etc.) will be paid by the site holder directly to the supplier.
11. There will be no future assessments for the space above the original purchase price. The process may be revised as future costs dictate. All paid reservations will be honored.
12. Any exceptions to the policy stated herein shall be submitted for consideration of the rector and vestry.
13. Revisions of these policies may be made by the vestry.
14. In special cases, memorial funds may be used to pay the cost of burial and provide a plaque for a member in good standing. In any case, no member or communicant in good standing of this parish will be denied burial in the Memorial Garden.
15. This agreement does not constitute a sale of property, but is merely the provision of a burial space. All ownership of the land remains with Grace Church.
16. The exclusive right to use such a reserved niche(s) may not be sold or otherwise transferred to an individual. It can only be surrendered to the church. If and when the church is able to resell the niche(s), then a refund of one-half of the reservation price may be made.

17. The Family Representative hereby gives Grace Church the right, in perpetuity, to relocate the cremated remains covered by this agreement, to another proper location, if in the sole discretion of the Vestry of Grace Church, such relocation is necessary.

18. Donations in a loved one's name may be given to the Memorial/Thanksgiving/Honorarium Fund and used to maintain our grounds at the direction of the Vestry.

Parish Office:

828-456-6029

admin@gracewaynesville.com

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provisions for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of the temporal goods, not neglecting, if they able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses.

~The Book of Common Prayer, p. 445