

The First Presbyterian Church Memorial Garden

The First Presbyterian Church Memorial Garden ministers to the needs of its church members and their families by providing an appropriate and carefully maintained consecrated site for the interment of the ash remains of their departed loved ones. Easily accessible, the Memorial Garden is situated near the entrance to the First Presbyterian Church Chapel, providing a peaceful place for individuals or groups to linger for meditation, reflection, and the celebration of life. The Garden's location also provides a continual spiritual and physical relationship with the church and its ministers and members. Designed as a circle, the Memorial Garden represents the circle of life, from birth to death, in God's munificent continual care.

With believers in every time and place,
we can rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God
in Jesus Christ.

-Affirmation of Faith

Memorial Book, Memorial Plaques, Records of Gifts

Each person buried in the Memorial Garden shall be memorialized with full name and dates of birth and death engraved on a small bronze plate mounted on a common plaque attached to the wall near the Chapel entrance and close to the Memorial Garden. The names of those buried shall also be recorded in a Memorial Book maintained inside the Church and available for viewing there. Archival quality pages shall be uniformly allocated to the interred individuals for displaying approved articles. Surviving family members are urged to contribute obituaries, notes on related religious services, and other approved memorabilia to the designated page in order to become a memorial history of the departed. A backup record of this information will be filed safely for future historic reference. Special gifts to the Memorial Garden shall also be recorded in this Memorial Book.

Interment

Interment shall be performed as a religious ceremony under the direction of an ordained minister of First Presbyterian Church. Buried remains shall occupy the garden in common. No individually personalized markers of any kind shall be permitted to designate the area of burial. Prior to the interment ceremony the church shall prepare the site to receive the ashes; these ashes shall be carried to the site in an urn and buried without the container.

The interment of ash remains is available for any member of the First Presbyterian Church and, at the discretion of the clergy, for members of their immediate family. Application and payment for burial shall be made through the church office, and prepayment for this service may be arranged at any time.

***For more information, please contact the
church office at 434-296-7131.***

Our Sacred Garden

*A place of rest for those in God's care
where one can remember and
peacefully meditate upon the lives of
those whom we love but see no longer.*

This quotation appears on the dedication stone
in the Memorial Garden.



*O Father of all, we pray to thee
For those whom we love but see no longer.
Grant them thy peace;
Let light perpetual shine upon them;
And, in thy loving wisdom
and almighty power,
Work in them the good purpose
of thy perfect will;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

-From the Book of Common Prayer



The Memorial Garden Plaque bears the names
of those who are interred in the garden. It is
located on the exterior Chapel wall.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MEMORIAL GARDEN



**To close the circle of ministry from
birth through death**

First Presbyterian Church
500 Park Street
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902
(434) 296-7131
www.firstprescharlottesville.org