

## **MEMORIAL GARDEN BURIAL POLICIES**

**Grace Church in the Mountains**

**Waynesville, North Carolina**

**Adopted January 18, 2005; revised March 20, 2012; revised June 11, 2013**

1. Eligibility includes all members of Grace Church in the Mountains and their immediate families, or others upon approval of the Rector and the Memorial Committee of Grace Church.
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. A Perpetual Maintenance Fund has been established. Grace Church will be responsible for the care of the burial spaces. The Fund will be comprised of fees received for each space, as well as gifts and memorials designated for this purpose. Contributions for perpetual care of the Memorial Garden are welcomed, and should be marked "Memorial Garden Fund" on the memo line of the check.
5. Landscape treatment will be provided only by 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, provided payment is made for the entire space. Assignments will be in accordance with the site holders' preference of available spaces.
  - A. The cost for a columbarium (wall) space shall be a fixed sum of \$1200.00 plus a 3" x 10" Plaque. The purchase price will be determined when it is ordered after the burial.
  - B. There will be an additional charge of \$200 for the first opening and closing of the space and \$100.00 for any subsequent opening and closing of the space.
  - C. Multiple burials permit ashes of only two persons to be buried in the same space in the wall.
  - D. A container for ashes is required for burials in the wall (columbarium).
  - E. Columbarium vaults measure approximately 8" high by 8" deep by 14 3/4" wide. If multiple burials are planned, special consideration must be given in selecting sizes of containers (maximum 8" H x 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 commonbarium in the Memorial Garden. There shall be no family spaces provided or reserved in the commonbarium. 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. The cost for in-ground burial shall be \$500.00 for the opening of the grave and the placing of the marker, plus the cost of the 2" x 10" plaque at the time of purchase after the burial.
  - B. Urns must be biodegradable but normally cremains are opened and placed in the ground.
  - C. In-ground dimensions of urns shall not exceed 8"x8"x8".
8. Trinity Memorial Wall space may be purchased for \$300.00 plus the cost of the 2" x 10" plaque at the time of purchase. The plaques will be placed in the inside of the Trinity Walls. 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 Perpetual Fund for the garden.

9. The Church Office will order the bronze plaque and inscription. The family will be billed for the plaque. This cost is in addition to the charge to open and close the site and set the plaque.
- A. All plaques shall be of uniform size and color designated by Grace Episcopal Church Memorial Committee.
  - 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 commonbarium will be located on the walls surrounding the commonbarium. 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, Vestry, and Memorial Committee.
13. Revisions of these policies may be made by the Memorial Committee and sent to the Vestry for review as changing conditions require.
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. The attached form will be used to request this.
17. The Family Representative hereby gives to 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.

**Additional Provisions:**

**Family Representative(s):** I have read and understand the above provisions and agree to abide by them: [signed]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Please initial this line if you choose to have any memorial donations made on your behalf be given to the Memorial Garden Fund.**