

Columbarium Committee

The Columbarium Committee, established and appointed by the Session of Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church, governs the operation of our columbarium. The Committee is responsible for overseeing and/or monitoring any construction and maintenance of the facility; controlling all funds received, invested, and dispersed on behalf of the columbarium; and working together with the Church business administrator or appointed representative of the Church business office to maintain all contracts and records of people who have purchased columbarium niches.



Inquiries

For additional information about the columbarium, contact the Church business office at:



2614 Oak Ridge Road
Oak Ridge, NC 27310
336-643-3452
www.orpc.org

Our Columbarium



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Memorial Columbarium

The columbarium of Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church (the Church) is a memorial garden designed as a resting place for the ashes of deceased members and their families. A columbarium is a permanent structure with niches or compartments designed to hold the urns containing the ashes of loved ones.

Our columbarium is located outside the Church under the stained glass window and cross in the chancel.

Our columbarium allows our members and their families the opportunity to have their final resting place within the shadow of the Church that has been a central part of their lives. This sacred site of beauty and dignity is a place where loved ones can visit and meditate.

The columbarium eliminates the pressures of choosing a burial site, casket, vault, and monument. Planning the inurnment and memorial service will be much simpler since it can all be done at the Church.

The cost of cremation and a niche in the columbarium are significantly less than the cost of a casket, burial site, and marker. The Church established a memorial columbarium fund in 2011, after the

death of a beloved Church member, Mike Farrell. The columbarium was designed by Jack Wagstaff, a Church member, and built in June of 2014 with the generous contributions from Church members. This area emanates dignity and peace among the beautiful garden in which it resides. The design reflects the dignity, beauty, and tranquility appropriate for the resting place for those who have died. It fulfills the Church's mission to oversee the spiritual life of its congregation from baptism through life to death.

These facilities are not intended to compete with commercial cemeteries, but are for the convenience of the Church members, ministers of ORPC and immediate families.

How Does It Work?

You purchase a columbarium niche from the Church. You can place up to two urns in each niche. Upon purchase, the granite faceplate will be engraved showing the first name, middle name, family name, and date of birth. As soon as possible after inurnment, the date of death will be added to the faceplate. The Church provides the urn, faceplate, and engraving. The Church will maintain your niche and its surroundings. Your family and friends will be comforted by your final resting place. In addition to inurnment in the columbarium

wall, a rose garden is provided for the scattering of ashes of deceased church members. Also, a memorial plaque on the side of the columbarium will provide the names of those inurned elsewhere with their name, date of birth, and date of death.

Purchasing a Niche

A copy of the application, niche inscription order form with purchase price of a niche, and the rules and policies of the columbarium are all available from the Church office. Once the application is approved, a certificate covering inurnment ownership rights will be sent to the purchaser. If you purchase a niche and decide not to use it, the Church will repurchase the niche for the original selling price only. Once the niche has been used, no refund will be made. A niche cannot be sold or transferred and may only be used by those listed on the original purchase. The purchase of a niche includes the urns, the plaques inscribed with name and dates of birth and death, the opening and closing of the niche for inurnment, and perpetual care. Each niche is designed to hold two urns. The purchase price of the niche does not cover the cost of cremation or the cost of scattered ashes in the rose garden. Niche assignments are allocated in accordance with the desires of each applicant on a first-come, first-serve basis.