

Once payment is received, names are engraved upon the plaques and they are installed in the memorial portion of the way. All engraving is uniform. The church is responsible for the permanent maintenance of the columbarium and garden.

How much does it cost?

There are 48 vaults/niches in the columbarium addition. Each vault holds one or two cremation urns.

These vaults are to only be used by Highland Presbyterian Church members, pastors, and staff, as well as immediate families of the above.

There is a two price options available. Each of the following prices includes:

- a vault for one or two urns
 - engraved names and dates of birth and death for each inurned person
- (There is no additional charge for opening and closing the vaults.)

Option 1- \$3,200
(Price during construction)

Option 2 - \$3,500
(Price after completion)

50% is due to secure reservation;
remaining 50% due one year from
reservation date.

TALK TO US

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Highland Presbyterian Church Memorial Garden and Columbarium

*"Because I live, you
also will live"*
John 14:19

What is the columbarium?

It is the brick wall, with vaults for urns that contain the cremated ashes of loved ones, and it is a central part of our memorial garden. The garden includes various greenery, benches, and a beautiful, large stone Celtic cross that is centrally located in the garden. Also, part of the memorial garden is the Memorial Wall, which includes the memorial plaques. The wall and the plaques exist to offer a place where members may honor the memory of those buried elsewhere. The names of those being memorialized are affixed to the plaques and then placed on the memorial wall.

How was the original section of the columbarium financed?

The columbarium is designed to be, and is, functioning in a self-sustaining way.

All of the funds received from the purchase of columbarium vaults were placed in a designated fund, called the "columbarium fund". These funds were used to construct the columbarium, maintain the columbarium and the memorial garden, and provide for the engraving on the front of the vaults.

Are there still vaults available in the original section of the columbarium?

No. All of the original columbarium vaults are either in use or have already been purchased by members.

What happens now?

First and most importantly: we believe that internment in our church grounds is a statement of our faith in the resurrection through Jesus Christ, the life everlasting, and a testament to the church triumphant.

We believe that internment within the church grounds is a doubly appropriate last resting place for the earthly remains for those who in life loved the church. Because we want to continue to provide this opportunity for our members, the columbarium committee has been regularly for over a year and has brought to the Session, and Session has approved the construction of an addition to our columbarium in the memorial garden. There is also a practical concern here: cemetery plots have become increasingly remote, difficult to reach, and significantly more expensive. The cost comparison with a traditional cemetery burial demonstrates a significant financial advantage of the columbarium. The addition will be a wall, near the church building facing the existing columbarium wall and the memorial garden.

It will contain 48 new vaults/niches.

Importantly, we believe that this addition will not only preserve the existing beautiful and sacred setting of the garden but enhance it. The addition will match the current columbarium and garden in style and look. The overall feel of the garden, like that of an old-time church cemetery, will be preserved and improved. We have contracted with the same builders, Columbarium Planners of Pinehurst.

After the completion of the addition, like it has been since the original section was built, the columbarium will be a dignified place of peace and beauty. It will continue to be an asset to our church and a fitting memorial to its departed loved ones.

How will this columbarium be financed?

The addition to the columbarium and the whole memorial garden will continue in a self-sufficient way. The niches/vaults are priced to allow us to pay out of the columbarium fund for the full construction of the addition, the engraving on all of the niches, and the ongoing maintenance of the garden. The construction of the columbarium addition will begin once we have enough funds in the columbarium fund to cover the cost of construction.

How does purchasing a niche/vault work?

Vaults in the columbarium walls are reserved by members of the church in the same way cemetery plots are reserved. Once payment for a vault is received, the members receive a folder containing the following: A copy of the reservation contract; a copy of the rules and operating procedures; a certificate acknowledging the reservation and indicating the specific vault and its location. Memorial plaques are reserved by members of the church in much the same way.