

# St. Paul's Memorial Garden Expansion Project

August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

# Welcome!

We are inviting you to be a *Friend of the Garden*

A *Friend of the Garden* is someone who does any of the following:

- Is supportive of the Memorial Garden Expansion Project
- Has a loved one in the Garden
- Reserves (or has already reserved) space in the Garden or the new Columbarium
- Provides financial support for the Project

# Outline

- ▶ The importance of our Memorial Garden
- ▶ The need for expansion
- ▶ Vision
- ▶ Columbariums 101
- ▶ Expansion plan
- ▶ Renderings
- ▶ Probable Cost
- ▶ Timing
- ▶ Financing the project
- ▶ Wrap up and Thank you!

# The importance of our Memorial Garden

- ▶ A place where we can have confidence that our remains and those of our families will be cared for in a loving, respectful and dignified manner by members of our own community
- ▶ A tranquil place for remembering the loved ones who are no longer with us
- ▶ A symbol of the connection of the church to our lives from cradle to death and beyond
- ▶ A tangible reminder of those who came before us at St. Paul's and who had a hand in making the parish our church home

# The need for expansion

- ▶ Capacity in our Memorial Garden is limited
  - ▶ Including reservations, there is only room for 4 additional names on our markers
  - ▶ At the *current* rate, no additional plots will remain in 10-15 years
- ▶ We expect demand to increase
  - ▶ The trend in the US, and even more so in the Episcopal Church, is toward cremation instead of burial
  - ▶ Our parish is now considerably larger than when the original Memorial Garden was dedicated in 1994
  - ▶ More of St. Paul's parishioners are choosing this option
    - ▶ In our Garden's first 18 years, there were 37 interments
    - ▶ From Jan '12 - Aug '13, there were 14 interments
    - ▶ An additional 30 plots are reserved through prepayment

# The need for expansion, cont'd

- ▶ The Memorial Garden Committee has explored many options for long-term expansion
- ▶ The Committee has visited more than 14 churches and one YMCA in the Triangle and beyond to understand more fully how these churches are addressing similar issues
- ▶ Several findings include:
  - ▶ Parishioners have different preferences about the ultimate state of their cremated remains.
  - ▶ An increasing trend is above-ground inurnment in a columbarium

# Vision

- ▶ Meet the needs of the parish for many decades into the future
- ▶ Provide our parishioners with options
  - ▶ Interment in existing garden (new markers effectively expand our capacity)
  - ▶ Inurnment in a new Columbarium
  - ▶ Honoring relatives whose remains are elsewhere by placing a plaque on a Remembrance Wall
- ▶ Beautify the Memorial Garden area so that it continues to be a peaceful, contemplative, and spiritual place
- ▶ Provide this service at a price that is affordable and competitive with other options, while at the same time being self-supporting, covering future maintenance, upkeep and expansion costs

# Columbariums 101

- ▶ What is inurnment and how is it different than interment?
  - ▶ Interment is either traditional burial or the burial of cremated remains
  - ▶ Inurnment involves storage of an urn (container for cremated remains)
- ▶ What is a columbarium?
  - ▶ A columbarium is an above ground structure in which urns are stored, usually permanently
- ▶ Are columbariums new?
  - ▶ While more common in big cities with space limitations, columbariums are becoming more popular as cremation increases
  - ▶ The Memorial Garden Committee visited columbariums at many churches of various denominations in the area

# Columbariums 101, cont'd

- ▶ What are the advantages of inurnment in a columbarium?
  - ▶ A columbarium provides surviving family and friends with a tranquil place where they may visit, pray and meditate with their loved one
  - ▶ Inurnment provides flexibility: if a family moves and wants their loved ones nearby, individual urns can be relocated
  - ▶ Average burial costs for two people typically are more than \$20,000. Cremation costs for two (\$1,500-\$5,000) and the cost of a 2-urn niche (~\$2,000) are far less

# Columbariums 101, cont'd

- ▶ Examples of columbariums (please see St. Paul's website for more photos)



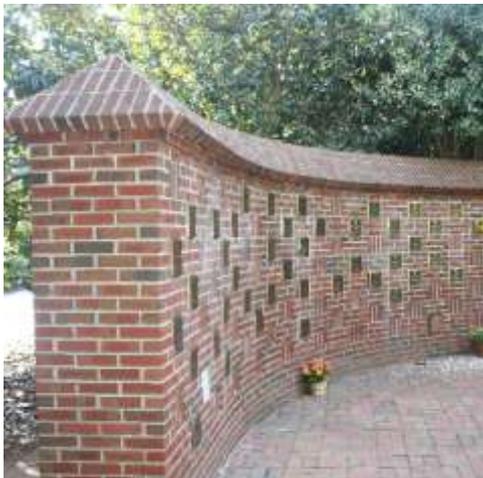
Cary Presbyterian



Grace Lutheran



St. Andrews Morehead



St. John's Charlotte



St. Michael's Raleigh

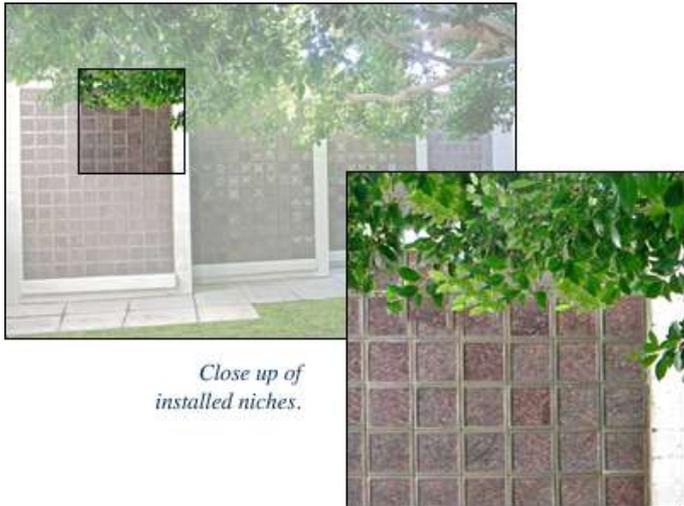


YMCA of the Rockies

# Columbariums 101, cont'd

- ▶ Urns are placed in niches in the columbarium wall
- ▶ Each niche holds two urns
- ▶ A faceplate of metal or granite is engraved with the names of those inurned
- ▶ We have selected Homecoming Inc. as our vendor for the columbarium walls, internal hardware and niches/faceplates
- ▶ Homecoming has an excellent reputation and has been in the columbarium business for 38 years, serving more than 1,200 churches nationwide
- ▶ For more information about Homecoming, please see:  
<http://www.homecominginc.com/index.html>

# Columbariums 101, cont'd



*Close up of installed niches.*

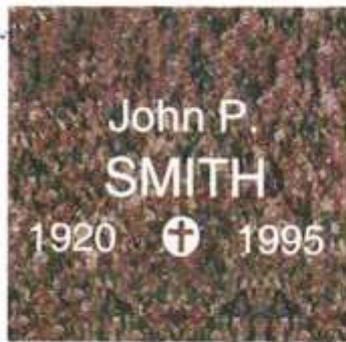
Columbarium wall



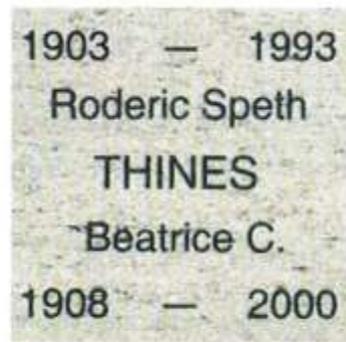
Niche with 2-urn capacity



Standard urn box



*Single*



*Companion*



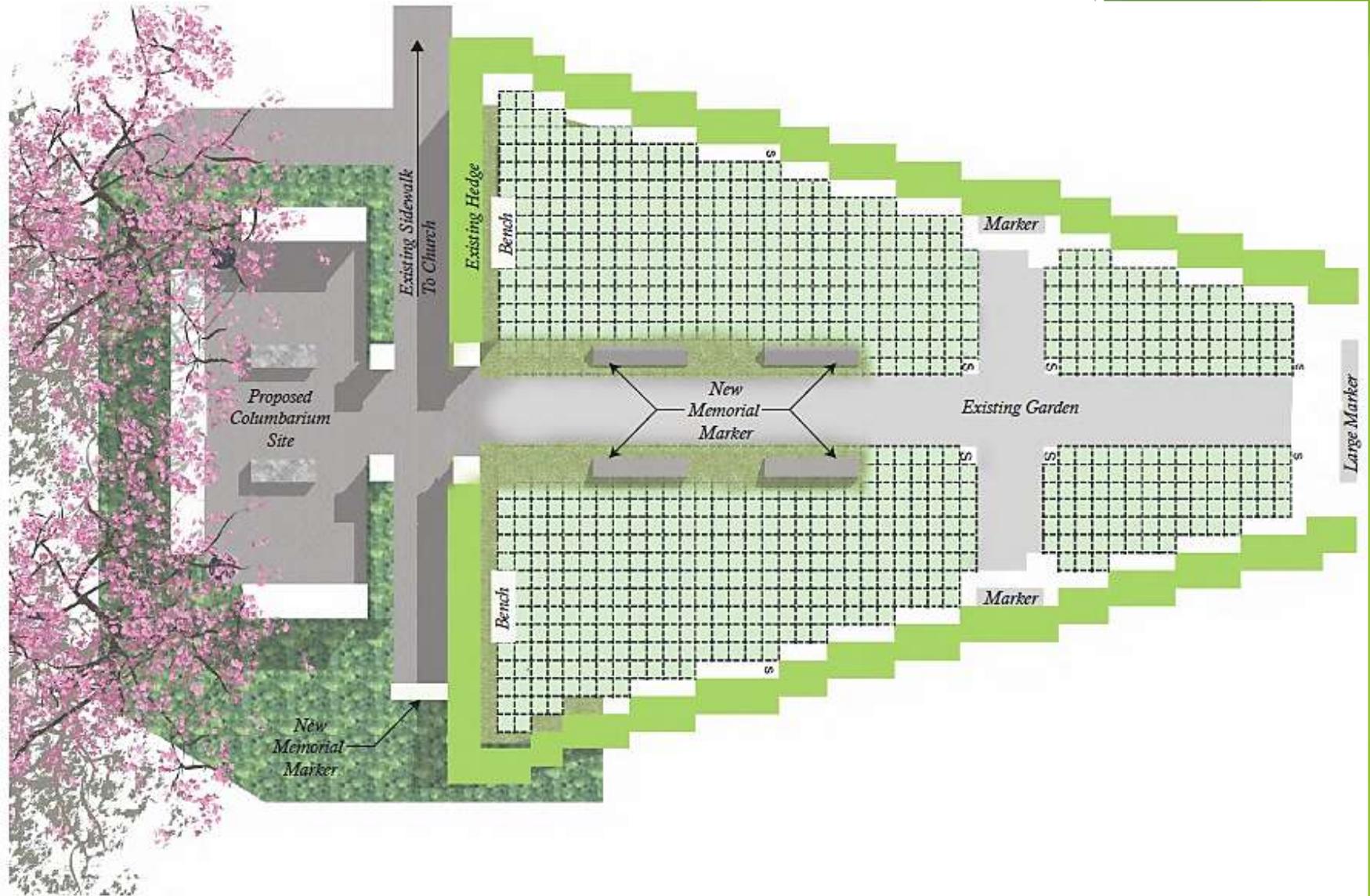
*Shared*

Faceplate engraving options

# Expansion plan

- ▶ Landscape architects with Stewart Engineering of Raleigh have worked with the Memorial Garden Committee to develop an expansion plan
- ▶ The plan includes:
  - ▶ Four markers that will effectively expand the capacity of the existing Memorial Garden by 80 names
  - ▶ A columbarium and surrounding landscaping that provide a peaceful setting
    - ▶ Eventual capacity is 300 niches
    - ▶ The first phase involves construction of one large and two smaller columbarium walls, with hardware for installation of 90 niches in the large wall
    - ▶ When we need additional capacity, we can purchase additional hardware for as many as 210 additional niches
  - ▶ A Remembrance Wall for plaques of loved ones whose remains are elsewhere.

# Expansion plan, cont'd



# Expansion plan, cont'd



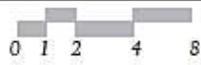
## Saint Paul's Episcopal Church | Columbarium

overall plan view

scale: 1/4" = 1'



north



# Current garden



# Renderings



*Saint Paul's Episcopal Church | Columbarium*

*view looking into garden*

# Current garden



# Renderings



*Saint Paul's Episcopal Church | Columbarium*

*view from existing garden towards columbarium*

# Current garden



# Renderings



*Saint Paul's Episcopal Church | Columbarium*

*view looking into the columbarium*

# Current garden



# Renderings



*Saint Paul's Episcopal Church | Columbarium*

*view looking towards the church*

# Probable cost

- ▶ The landscape architect is preparing the final design, after which we will have a better idea of the final cost
- ▶ Early estimates:
  - ▶ Total cost: \$120,000
    - Of which:
      - ▶ Markers - \$12,000 (\$3,000 each)
      - ▶ Hardware for 90 niches - \$21,000
      - ▶ Columbarium construction - \$60,000
      - ▶ Landscaping - \$10,000
      - ▶ Improved watering system - \$2,000
      - ▶ Construction design/management - \$15,000

# Timing

- ▶ We are currently taking reservations for the Memorial Garden and will begin taking reservations in November for the Columbarium
- ▶ After we know how many reservations we have, we can identify additional fundraising needs
- ▶ In December and through the Winter, we will provide various opportunities for parishioners to donate to this project
- ▶ Our intent is to complete construction in the summer of 2014:
  - ▶ the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of moving into our new church building
  - ▶ the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of St. Paul's Memorial Garden

# Financing the project

- ▶ Reserving a niche (for one-to-two people) initially will be \$2,000. This amount may increase after our initial fundraising period
- ▶ We hope to have 30 to 50 niches reserved
  - ▶ Reservations will play a large part in making this dream a reality!
- ▶ There will be opportunities to sponsor items in the plan, such as:
  - ▶ Benches
  - ▶ Cross
  - ▶ Red-bud trees and other landscaping
- ▶ Plaques for the Remembrance Wall can be purchased for \$300
- ▶ Parishioners can also make tax deductible donations to the project

# Wrap up and Thank You!

- ▶ Questions?
- ▶ Thank you for considering being a Friend of the Garden!
- ▶ Thank you to those who are making this project a reality

## Memorial Garden Committee '92

Jan Shirley  
Charlie Singler  
Helen Yefko  
Barbara Sowter  
Tom Thamm  
Pat White

## Memorial Garden Committee '13

Jackie Straub  
Frank Bricio  
Anne Brock  
Lisa Brown  
David Buchanan  
Dorothy Duke  
Kurt & Katie Robinson  
Pete Stockett  
Gordon Werner  
Keith Wood