

COLUMBARIUM

The columbarium at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church was begun as a part of our last building addition in 1993. The original cost was just under \$25,000.00, and comprised two niche units and one plaque unit. Of this amount, \$18,000.00 was advanced from the building fund and the remainder was donated by one of our interested families. The third niche unit was added in late 2006 at a cost of just under \$23,000.00.

The Session placed several constraints on the Columbarium Committee, Which are:

- 1) The day to day operation will not be a “moneymaking” operation.
- 2) The columbarium would be planned and constructed so that much of the associated work could be performed by a local custodian.
- 3) The columbarium would be planned and constructed so that it would not interfere with any of the other Church’s work.

We think we have met the Sessions requirements and then some, primarily because we have placed a columbarium that does not require outside help to perform an interment.

Quite naturally, these savings are passed on to the user. Costs are as follows:

Niche units B and C, \$200.00 per niche; Niche unit A, \$400.00 per niche, Plaque unit P, \$100.00 per space.

Niche units A, B, and C are for the storage of cremains, and Plaque unit P is for those who are interred elsewhere but wish to be remembered at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church.

We had originally thought that the costs would be all inclusive, but the cost of bronze has risen so dramatically that we now are charging for the final scroll. The scroll is the same for all units.

The current quantity of reservations and interments(as of December 1, 2010) is shown below.

Unit	Capacity	Reservations	Interments
A	80	9	2
B	64	56	27
C	80	77	36
P	56	46	15
Totals	280	188	80

The Columbarium Committee currently is comprised of four members (we could use one more) who meet on demand, usually about three or four times each year. The committee has met only one time this year, and that was by a series of telephone calls. The bulk of the work is performed by the custodian. The committee reports to the Session via the Property Committee.