

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OLD SAYBROOK, CT

WOODLAND MEMORIAL GARDEN

"The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore." – Psalm 121

Death is a part of the life cycle. We are born. We live. We die. We leave behind a part of ourselves in each one that we have loved, lived with, and included in our lives in some way. And, in the hearts of those we leave behind we are forever memorialized.

The **Woodland Memorial Garden** at St. Paul Lutheran Church is respected as hallowed ground, sacred to the memory of those who have departed from our midst. The garden is to provide a spiritual place on church property for the placement of ashes after cremation.

Inspired by a gift from the Jensen Corporation, directed to the startup of the garden by the Jensen Family in honor of Kris Jensen, the garden was dedicated in September of 2013. Care and maintenance is administered by the Woodland Memorial Garden Team and the property committee of the church and is sustained through donations and fees.

***"If we have died with Christ, we shall also live with him;
If we are faithful to the end, we shall reign with him." - 2 Timothy 2:11-13***

Services provided for those who wish to take avail of the garden are:

- Memorial Service or Funeral
- Interment of Ashes
- Memorialization on Brass Name Plaque

Arrangements for the placement of ashes in the Woodland Memorial Garden can be pre-planned at any time during life. Persons desiring interment in the garden are encouraged to inform their family of their wishes.

The quiet beauty of the site is in part due to its location on the banks of the tideland wetlands. The maple grove for the ashes dispersal is also one of the last native stands of such trees in the area.

To arrange interment for a deceased loved one, the family should first contact the church office to set a date for the placement of ashes and for the necessary forms and paperwork. At that time, all guidelines, cost schedule, and other details are handled.

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." – John 11: 25

Any interested person may obtain additional information from the Woodland Memorial Garden brochure available from the office and available in the church narthex. For a confidential inquiry, please call the church office and request an appointment with Pastor Geoff Sinibaldo. Other details may be obtained from our Church Administrator, Kim Meadows, during regular business hours of the office.

Gifts of any amount are also welcomed. They are placed in the Woodland Memorial Garden Fund and used solely to beautify the garden. Gifts should be sent to the church office specifying that they be deposited in the Woodland Memorial Garden Fund. All contributions are acknowledged. The Memorial Garden Book also provides an archival record of donations and special celebrations.

***A sacred place of exquisite natural beauty where...
lives are remembered, relationships honored, families cherished and faith sustained.***

Growing in Christ,
Nancy MacMillan

**** Information contained in this article came partially from the *Woodland Memorial Garden Brochure***