

Survey Results 6/11/2017

Number of surveys: 101

Planning Survey for BCMC Columbarium and Garden of Memory and Hope

Please return to the box in the Gathering Place by May 28, 2017

The Bethel College Mennonite Church built a columbarium in 2005 with 144 niches. To guarantee future availability, BCMC voted to expand the columbarium. There are niches open for immediate use but this action guarantees future space for others purchasing niches now.

Recently the Creation Care Committee developed a complementary proposal for a Garden of Memory and Hope for scattering ashes of loved ones. Because this option was not available when a previous survey of needs was conducted, **the Church Board is requesting your response to this brief survey.** Results will help the Church Board develop a proposal for consideration at a future congregational meeting. **Your response to this survey does not obligate you in any way.**

For this survey assume that the cost is the same for either the Columbarium or the Garden of Memory and Hope and the cost is \$1,000 for members and \$1,500 for non-members. A memorial plaque in the Columbarium or a memorial paver in the Garden would be available for the same price.

1. Circle the letter of the statement that best describes your situation:

- a. **32 (31.7%)** I/we have or are developing other plans and do not anticipate using the BCMC Columbarium or Garden of Memory and Hope for burial of ashes. If you circle this option, circle the statement below that best describes your intentions.
 - i. **27 (90%)** I/we are not planning for a memorial plaque or paver at BCMC.
 - ii. **3 (10%)** I/we are planning for **3 for 2 memorials -total of 6** (number of) memorial plaques or pavers at BCMC.
- b. **31 (30.7%)** I/we have already purchased **3 purchased 1, 25 purchased 2** (number of) niches. If you circle this option, circle the statement below that best describes your situation.
 - i. **1 (3.3%)** I/we now prefer to use the Garden of Memory and Hope instead of the Columbarium.
 - ii. **29 (96.7%)** I/we still prefer to use niche(s) in the Columbarium.
- c. **17 (16.8%)** I/we plan to purchase **16 plan to purchase 2 niches, 1 to purchase 3 – total of 33 niches** (number of) Columbarium niche(s) in the future.
- d. **11 (10.9%)** I/we plan to purchase **2 plan for 1, 9 plan for 2- total of 20 agreements** (number of) agreement(s) to scatter in the Garden of Memory and Hope in the future.
- e. **10 (9.9%)** I/we are not sure of our plans.

2. If you circled (c) or (d) above indicating a future purchase, when do you anticipate making that purchase (circle the letter): **Note: numbers that follow do not indicate the number of niches or agreements**

- a. **9 (32.1%)** Within 12 months

- b. **13 (46.4%)** Within 5 years
- c. **6 (21.4%)** More than 5 years from now

3. Comments or explanations if any

Appreciate the Memory Garden and Columbarium options. Thanks.

Is the niche restricted to one person or can a couple use it?

We question the viability of the Garden of Hope and who will take care of it? We already have too many weeds around the church that no one seems to be aware of. We have some anxiety about it being kept up.

We would prefer not to have name plaques and ashes scattered in such a public place as the front/main entrance of the church (where the Garden of Memory and Hope is proposed to be located).

Our response could change, but this is current thinking.

Have a space already with family

Were I to die in the near future, I'd want my ashes to be scattered in the garden here

I have a plot at...Cemetery near Hillsboro where my husband... is buried

Not opposed to either option. Already have a burial plot in cemetery.

[Did not indicate if would have memorial plaque or paver but marked no]

[within 5 years]

I plan to be cremated but remains will be buried in cemetery plot by my husband.

...s ashes are in BCMC Columbarium ?? My niche, next to...s, has my name on it. Both niches have been paid for--paid & prepaid

.... and I have chosen cremation. ... prefers a traditional burial. We have purchased lots atCemetery.

Within 5 years ? ...s remains will not be kept at BCMC. I am uncertain about plans for mine.

We also own two burial plots at Greenwood Cemetery.... We are open to selling these.

\$2000 total

...s ashes are waiting to be scattered in the garden.

[Did not answer if prefer to use niche or garden]

My plan is to have my ashes buried next to my husband in the ... Cemetery, ...

Can a couple use one niche? If not, we want two adjacent.

My niche next to ...s is reserved & purchased.

We bought our niches years ago and ... is using hers.

Not clear if we will decide on niches or pavers.or one of each. Within 12 months

We plan to purchase 2 plaques or pavers with the next 10 months.

We've been away -- not in on any discussion of the new proposal, so will stay with original plan/purchase for now. We might be persuaded otherwise.

Would be nice if a brick with name and date would be included.

More than 5 years from now

Deciding between [niches and scattering]. Within 12 months for 2

I see there needs to be some work in the niche garden. Those "volunteer/wild" trees are getting out of hand.

We will want to use the Columbarium or the Garden of Memory but are still undecided

My husband is buried at ... and we bought a double plot at that time.

[Not sure if purchase columbarium niches within 5 or more than 5 years]

Are there some forms that still need to be processed in relation to our purchase of niches?

[No answer about memorial plaque or paver]

[When purchase] - when we die. I don't think we should have a scatter garden if no one is willing to maintain it. We have plenty of places now that need attention. OK with a place for plaques.