

THE MAKING OF A COLUMBARIUM

TIMNATH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2008-2017

A Columbarium Feasibility Committee was approved by our church's Session in September 2007. Our committee received permission to educate our church members about the benefits of having a columbarium, and to determine the level of interest. We chose Homecoming, Inc., as the best provider of columbarium supplies.

It was important that this project be financed independently, without impacting the church's operating budget.



Several concepts were presented and discussed for an outdoor columbarium and memorial garden area. Architect Allen Curtis drew up numerous versions of the plans at no charge to the church. We also began compiling the rules and regulations associated with the development and ongoing ownership of a columbarium and memorial garden.

Because of the church explosion in August 2009, our plans were put on hold for much of 2009 and 2010. The columbarium proposal was formally approved by The Presbytery of the Plains and Peaks on 7-16-2011, by our church session, and by our congregation in a special meeting on 8-7-2011.

Our columbarium site
plan was approved by the
Town of Timnath Planning
Commission in July 2013.

A Columbarium Committee was formed, consisting of:

Raleigh and Edith Brooks

Gordon and Edith Kruse

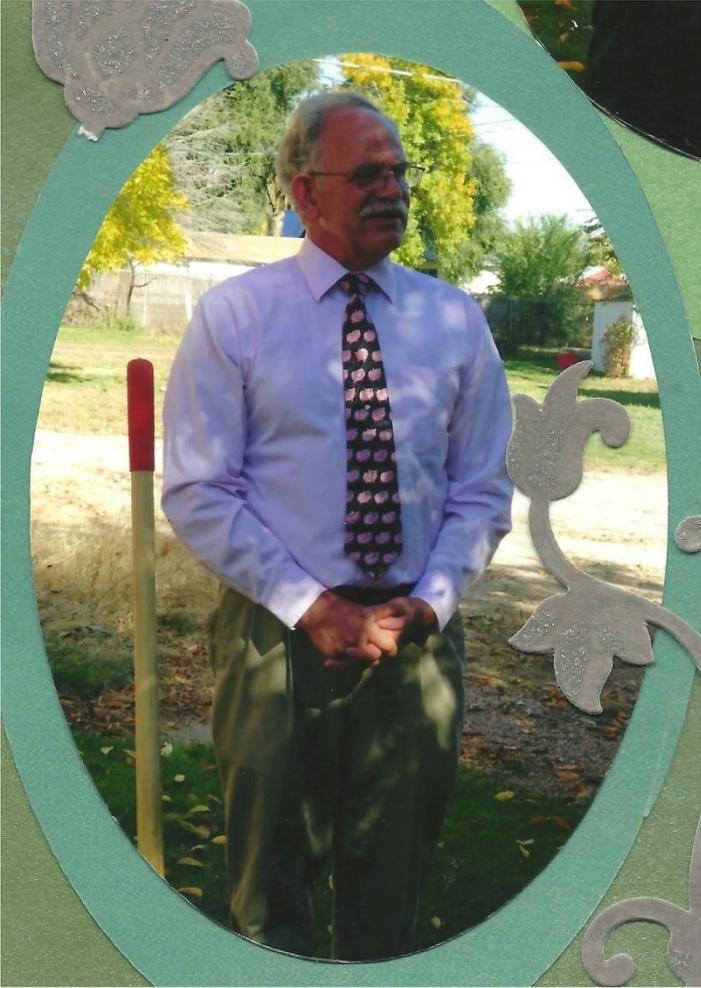
Paul and Mary Ellen Moyer

Clarence and Phylis Sitzman

As of May, 2017, the same committee is in place, with the exception of the late Rev. Paul Moyer, whose support and guidance is sorely missed.

Pastor Matt Webber
At
groundbreaking



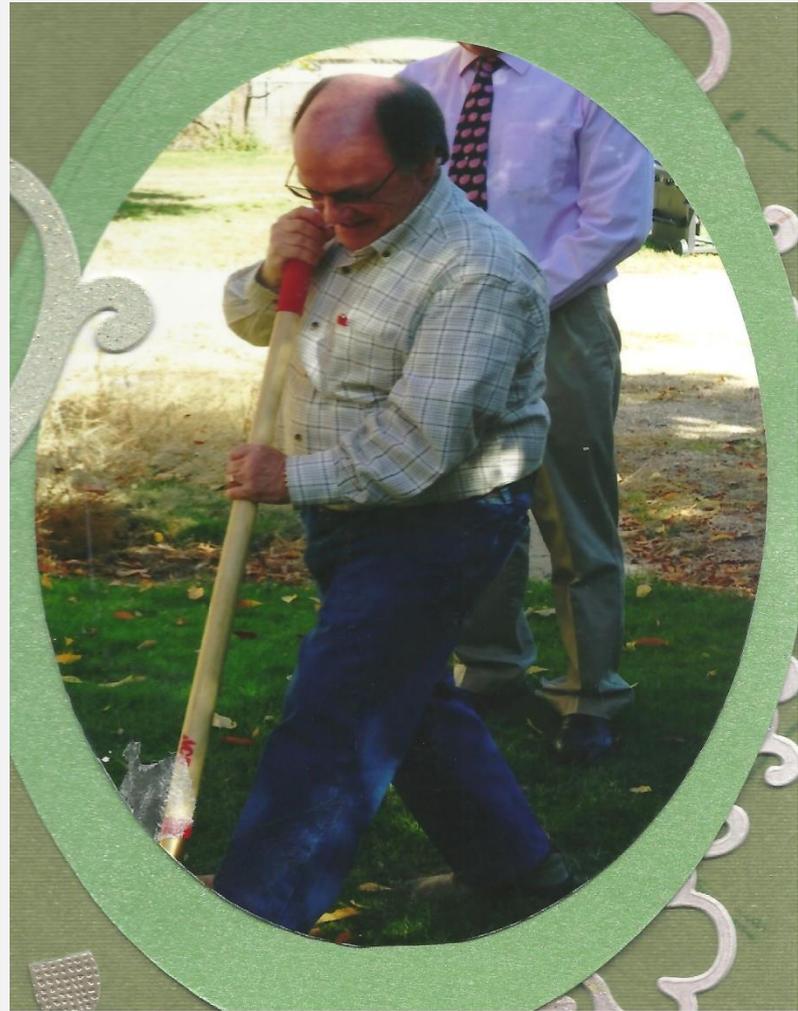


Clarence Sitzman at
groundbreaking

Phylis Sitzman at
groundbreaking



Allen Curtis, our
Architect, turning
a shovelful of earth

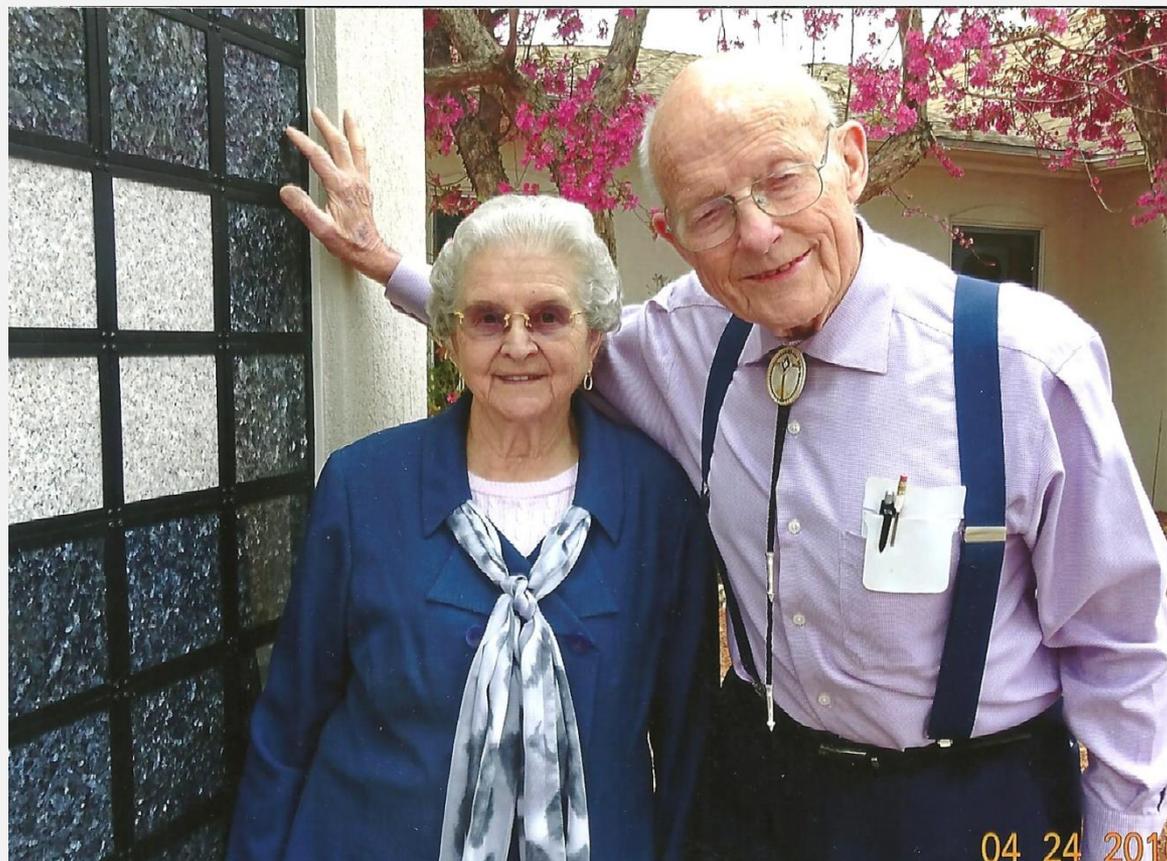




Mary Ellen Moyer
Breaking ground



Edith and Gordon Kruse
At groundbreaking



Columbarium Committee Members
Edith and Raleigh Brooks



Site Preparation

The columbarium is located just South of the Church office; west of the Narthex. The existing sidewalk to the office needed to be relocated; the septic tank filled. A pine tree on the site had been removed previously.



Concrete
poured
in
shape
of
a
Cross



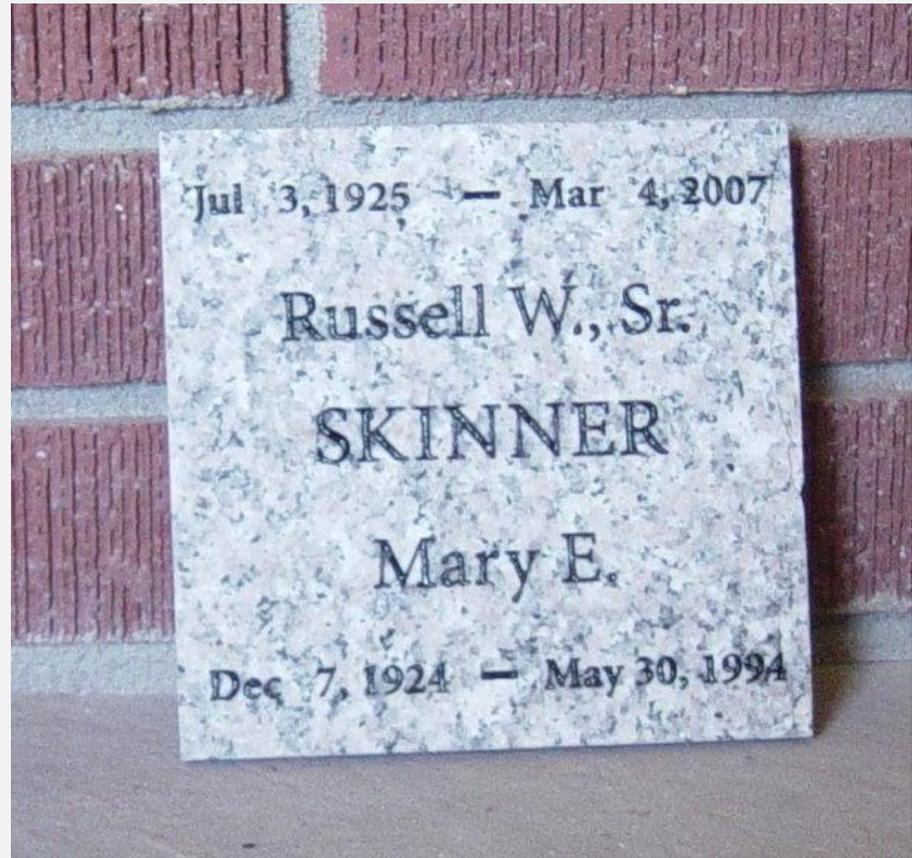
Kiosks being framed;
almost ready to receive
finish coat and have niches
inserted.



First Kiosk, with
face plates in place.
As of April, 2017,
seven cremains have
been inurned and
face plates engraved.



Example of engraved granite face plate to be fastened to niche. Granite color is “Gris Montecruz Sonoma”





South wall, ready for remembrance plaques
to be installed.

The Remembrance Wall in the TPC Memorial Garden

Persons whose remains are elsewhere can have their names engraved on granite plaques as a form of remembrance.

As of April 2017, nine departed members have had their names engraved.



Pastor Matt Webber at Columbarium Dedication



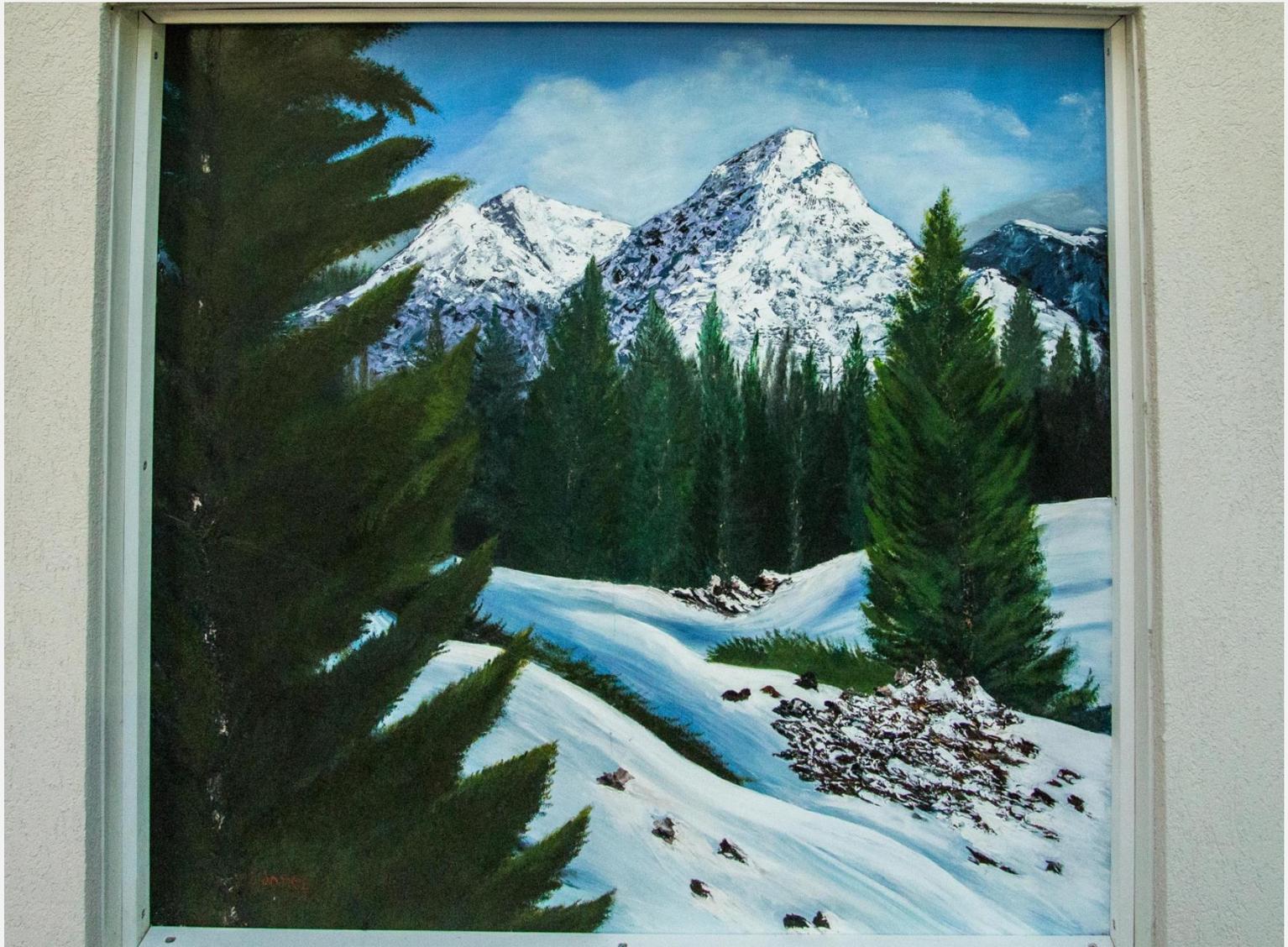
Five kiosks were originally constructed. Only one had niches installed; the others are available later as the need arises. The others had plain plywood panels in place of niches.

Sharon Jones painted four beautiful landscapes to decorate the panels. The next four slides show photographs of Sharon's paintings.









In 2017 funds were available to add a carillon (chime) to the columbarium. This was largely due to the Moyer family dedicating the memorial funds contributed in memory of the late Rev. Paul A. Moyer to this purpose.

Verdin Co. of Cincinnati, OH was selected to provide the speakers, electronics, and software.

Clarence Sitzman, with the help of Gene Boling and Russ Skinner, installed the speakers on the third Saturday in February.

Clarence Sitzman
and Gene Boling
installing speakers
in the bell steeple
of the church.



The carillon system was dedicated at the worship service on March 19, 2017. Mary Ellen Moyer reviewed the history of the columbarium and acknowledged the role that the memorial funds given in memory of her late husband, Paul, played in making possible the carillon system.



Clarence Sitzman, at the dedication, showing the memorial book that is available to families who wish to record memories of their loved ones at the church.



Pastor Matt Webber
offering a prayer at
the dedication service.



Thanks to Sally Herbert, who took
most of these photographs.