

Frequently Asked Questions about the Celebration Wall and Creekside Commons

Can I buy a leaf if I am not a member of First Congregational Church?

Yes. The Celebration Wall and Creekside Commons are open to the public.

Can I choose a short message or saying instead of or in addition to a name?

No. We request that only names (dates optional) be etched on the leaves.

Can I request two names on a leaf?

Yes. *What about additional names?* Perhaps. Leaf size will limit the number of characters. We will confirm all requests with donors.

Will names of donors be acknowledged on the wall?

No. There will be no separate listing of donors on the wall. The names on the wall (etched on leaves) will be the names designated by the donors of each leaf. A donor may choose to designate his/her own name for a leaf.

Can I make a gift to support Creekside Commons and not purchase a leaf? The purchase of a leaf is too expensive for me but I'd like to support Creekside Commons. What are the options?

Everyone is welcome to make a donation to the development and care of the Creekside Commons. Please use the donation form, mark "other (no leaf)" on the order form, and fill in your gift amount.

Who owns and maintains Creekside Commons? Can I be a worker?

First Congregational Church owns the land and our Sustainability Committee plans, plants and maintains the space for use by the public. We welcome your participation—please call (262) 692-9089 or email CreeksideCommons@portucc.org to leave your contact information.

How has Creekside Commons been able to get started?

Excited and hard-working congregation members have been improving this space since 1998! While the particular vision has changed over the years, we have always been working toward sharing this unique spot with the Port Washington community. Volunteers have removed trees, brush and invasive weeds. We have received generous gifts over the years that have paid for land surveys, landscape plans, tree removal, wall removal, grading/seeding, pathway installation and even some plants.

When will the wall be made and installed? When will the rest of the paths and planting be done?

Once we can reach our fundraising goal of 40 leaves donated, we will schedule the necessary professional landscaping. Then the Celebration Wall will be installed at the lower creek-side level.

Will there be a dedication service?

Yes. The date and time are yet to be determined.

Who designed the Celebration Wall?

Adam Brown, a congregation member, designed this wonderful, free-standing wall-sculpture with input from members of Creekside Commons/Sustainability Committee.

What are the leaves made from? How will names be added to leaves?

Leaves are made of aluminum that is anodized, creating a permanent golden color. Each name will be laser-etched into each leaf shape.

Will there be a memorial rose garden?

No. In the very earliest conversations about this park space, someone mentioned roses. While some roses might be included, the emphasis will be on native plantings, using low-maintenance and sustainable practices.

Will the burial of cremains be allowed in Creekside Commons?

No, only the scattering of cremains can be accommodated here as our church property is not a recognized cemetery.

Other questions?

Please call (262) 692-9089 and leave a message or email CreeksideCommons@portucc.org or talk with a Sustainability Committee member.