



The Labyrinth at *Avondale Presbyterian Church*

The Labyrinth at Avondale

The labyrinth at Avondale Presbyterian Church is located in the Sacred Garden at 2821 Park Road, Charlotte, NC 28209. We encourage everyone - members, visitors, and neighbors - to use the garden as a place for reflection, meditation, prayer, and remembrance. Walk the labyrinth, listen to the soothing ring of the wind chimes, have a conversation with a friend, laugh with a child, or read a book. The garden entrance is located across from the Family Life Center.

Avondale's Sacred Garden was created to be a sacred space, something unique, tranquil and beautiful. A place for families, where children felt welcome. The garden offers a place of quiet, away from the hustle and bustle of life and the city. This small nature garden features trees and flowers, a spiral walkway up a slight hill, a view of the Charlotte skyline, a Columbarium - a resting place for the ashes of loved ones, the rhythm of running water, a chime tower capturing wind to generate music, and a labyrinth offering a unique, tranquil, and fun walking experience.

To read more about the Sacred Garden, <https://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/we-are-sacred-garden>

Walking the Sacred Garden

"I need silence within my life, the kind of silence which allows me to hear my heart.

Not the beating and throbbing of the muscle, but the silence of the heart....from a brain that is never silent. When my heart is light and filled with joy, I find myself listening to the chimes...and I thank God for the grace which so fills my life. When my heart is heavy...I find

myself walking in the garden listening, seeking to remove...that which drains joy and energy.....It is here that I, in this location, desire to be more attentive to God's will and here, from the silence I hear, that I discern God's will."

- Dr. Rev. John Earl, "Faith Journeys" volume 3

A little history of Avondale's Labyrinth in the Sacred Garden

Avondale's Sacred Garden came into being neither by chance or things falling into place....In 1998, Mrs. Martha A. Meunier, an Avondale member, graciously gave Avondale \$100,000 for the creation of sacred space....We believed we were being led to create something unique, tranquil and beautiful.

The Sacred Garden would be a place of peace and healing.... Children would feel welcome.... Mrs. Hazel Horton, also an Avondale member, donated the Celtic cross installed at the top of the spiral walkway.... From idea to the completion, Avondale members responded to the Spirit in creating our sacred space. We felt a longing and an urge to move toward making a place that would be special for us. But as it often happens, we underestimated the wisdom of the Spirit in using that space. It now serves not only the Avondale Church family, our neighborhood, and our city, but indeed those who have traveled a long road to arrive in that sacred space to find rest and peace.

- "OPPORTUNITY GIVEN" by Hannah Stockwell

[Read more about the gardens concept, history and design.](#)