## THE MEMORIAL GARDEN AT ST. PAUL'S

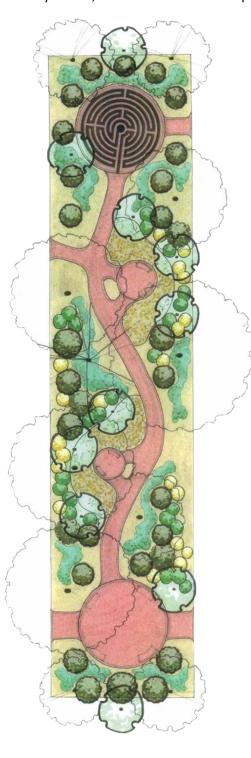
## By Pete Dillingham

**S**t. Paul's recently recognized the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Memorial Garden, which was blessed on site with a service of The Holy Eucharist on August 7, 2005. This beautiful resource is located in the middle of the New Cemetery, north of the Parish Hall. While its origins are relatively recent, we are beholden to the prescient planners of the 1950's who when

laying out the plan for additional foot area in its center which would planned burial lots. However, landscaped the periphery with English boxwood. In late 2002, Gieselmann, called an ad hoc more organized form suitable for interment of ashes of those be returned directly to the good discussion of the elements with a local landscape architect, October 2003, and construction

The plan consists of two large Memorial Garden's east-west area or perhaps an area for groups to accommodate a labyrinth, increased focus during spiritual the seven circuit labyrinth is that Ravenna, Italy (see accompanying courtyards are two smaller meditation. One will note that and the only sharp edges are at feature is intended to separate from the inside peacefulness of feature of separation is consist of three levels of growth; and shrubs. and the well see in, the perspective to the i.e., while there is a sense of isolation. The curving pathway

The MG is equipped with its own of the plants occurs when the moisture content of the air is system turns on and waters the chairs in the MG in the alcoves and courtyard. There have been eight Parishioners and of Friends of St. of the interments are indicated bricks inserted in the edging of the treasured assets and readers are



cemetery space, reserved a 40 x 200 remain undeveloped, i.e., without they did wish it to be used and now majestic oaks and well-developed then Rector, the Reverend Robert K. committee to convert the space to a spiritual meditation and perhaps the persons who wished their remains to earth. After several months of conducive to meditation and working the attached design was approved in started.

courtyards anchoring each end of the axis. The east end being a teaching to meet. The west end was designed which has been used for centuries for meditation. The design selected for taken from the Basilica di San Vitale in article and diagram). Between the alcoves for additional privacy during inside the MG, there are no corners the entrances to the MG. This design the sharpness of the outside world the MG. Furthermore, this particular emphasized by the plantings which the tall oaks, the midsized dogwoods groundcover. While one can't very outside is softened by the vegetation, solitude, there is no sense of adds to the sense of peacefulness.

well and irrigation system. Watering

sensed to be low and the irrigation garden. There are four memorial two long benches in the east interments of the ashes of Paul's. The general location of several with the installation of memorial pathway. The MG is one of St. Paul's urged to visit and linger a while.

The design architect was Amber D. Jensen, of Halcyon, LLC (formerly of Chestertown, Maryland) and the builders were Unity Landscape, Design/Build, Inc. of Church Hill, Maryland.