

NANCY POWERS CARR
PRAYER GARDEN &
COLUMBARIUM

AT FAIRHOPE UMC



Many people are now considering using a columbarium as the final resting place for themselves or their loved ones. Cultural norms about burial methods have changed over the years due to fiscal and environmental concerns, and to the growing acceptance that there is nothing theologically or spiritually wrong with cremation as a means for dealing with one's earthly remains. The body that is left behind is not the person who has departed into eternity, but one does want to handle those remains with the utmost decorum and respect. Cremation and inurnment in a columbarium is a very appropriate means by which a family can ensure their departed ones cremated remains are in a place of dignity.

Fairhope United Methodist Church wants to provide a final resting place for persons who love this congregation and where people can come to reverently remember the lives of people they hold dear. The location of the columbarium fits into the master plan of the church with the design promoting serenity and a reflective atmosphere. It is the hope of the Columbarium Team that many who are tied to this church will select the Fairhope UMC Columbarium as their final earthly resting place.

I can imagine a very meaningful and beautiful service taking place in our marvelous sanctuary and then a dignified procession taking the ashes of a faithful servant of the Lord to be laid to rest in the nearby columbarium. There is no more fitting way to conduct a service of remembrance and resurrection than to keep the whole memorial process on our church grounds.

I commend the efforts of the Columbarium Team to you. They have done outstanding work.

Yours in Christ,

Darren McClellan, Senior Pastor

FAIRHOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Columbarium Team

Mary Finger 508-7272

Wanda Harris 626-3600

Dilana Norman 591-6994

Ann Pearson 751-2763

Please contact one of the team members to set up an appointment for purchase of niche.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why a columbarium at our church?

There seems to be no more fitting place as the final resting place of a Christian than at his or her church. The concept of residing on consecrated church property is an old one, dating from the very beginnings of Christianity and is sound for both theological and practical reasons. The columbarium will be a place of tranquility and reverence where individuals can visit loved ones to celebrate their lives and prayerfully meditate. It may provide your family the opportunity for a memorial service, inurnment and reception in one place. It also removes many of the decisions associated with a traditional funeral, alleviating some financial stresses in an already difficult time of grief.

Why choose a columbarium over a traditional funeral?

The most comforting reason for choosing a columbarium is the idea of being peacefully laid to rest at your church home – or a place that is familiar to you or your loved ones. The proximity to the church will permit ease of visitation and prayerful reflection. For some, the financial impact may be lessened.

Who may purchase a niche within the Columbarium at Fairhope United Methodist Church?

A niche is simply one storage place in a wall for the cremated remains. Our Columbarium will be available to current and past members and their families, past and present clergy and their families as well as community members associated with Fairhope United Methodist Church.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much does a niche cost?

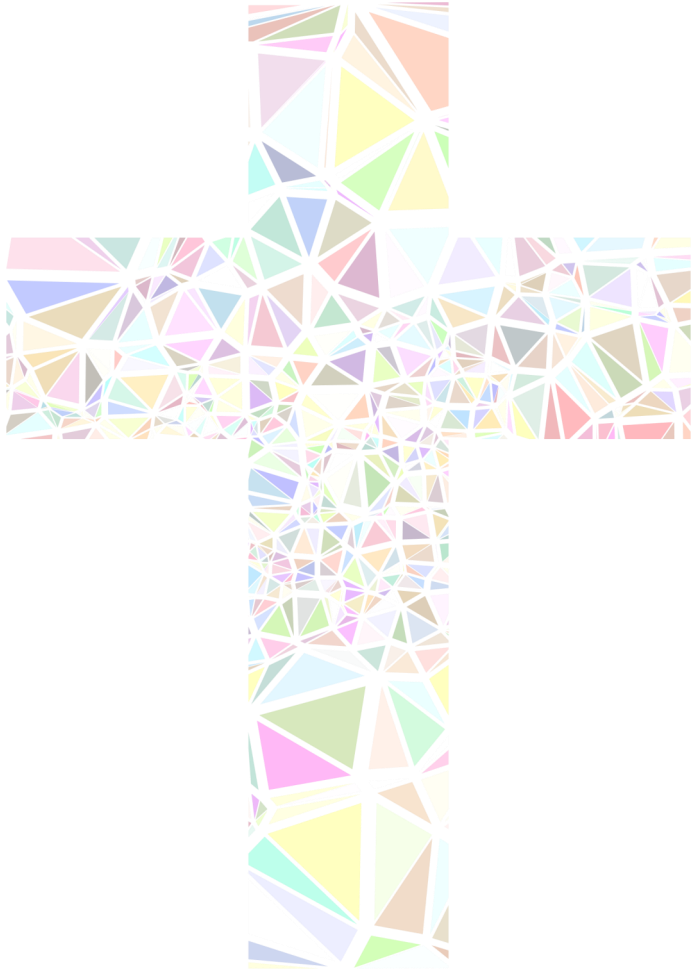
The columbarium will contain places for single (\$2,000) and double (\$3,000) niches. The cost will include inurnment, an engraved plate containing the deceased name, date of birth and death and the option to have a white dove release (weather permitting). The location of a purchased niche will be based on availability. To ensure your niche location is near other family members, niches should be purchased at the same time. The cost of cremation is not included. A full memorial service is available with the inurnment and upon request, a reception may be coordinated.

How would one reserve a columbarium niche?

To reserve a niche, you would fill out a subscriber agreement for inurnment rights for Fairhope United Methodist Church and pay for the niche in full. Once approved by the Columbarium Committee and full payment is received. The legal title to all niches shall remain with Fairhope UMC.

Can one transfer a niche to someone else?

No purchaser shall have the right to sell, give or devise the niches to another person. However, a purchaser who desires to sell, give or devise a niche to another party who exhibits eligibility under the terms of the agreement may request the committee to permit such transfer, and the committee may, at its sole discretion, approve such transfer as the committee deems appropriate.



Wesley Hall (Old Fellowship Hall)

