

ARE THERE ALTERNATIVES TO THE COLUMBARIUM ?

Yes, there will be a Memorial Plaque for the names, dates of birth and dates of death of those whose cremated remains are scattered within the Memorial Garden, by or under the supervision of the AUMC pastoral staff, or scattered/buried elsewhere.

FEE SCHEDULE

Reservation of Columbarium Niche	\$2,000.00
Reservation of Columbarium Niche by Installment Reservations	
First Payment	\$ 750.00
Rest To Be Paid in Three (3) Years (includes \$100 fee)	\$1,350.00
Reservation of ½ Columbarium Niche	\$1,000.00
Reservation of ½ Columbarium Niche by Installment Reservations	
First Reservation	\$ 500.00
Rest To Be Paid in Three (3) Years (includes \$50 fee)	\$ 550.00
Memorial Plaque	\$ 300.00
Memorial Bench	Varies Upon Selection
Scattering of Remains in Memorial Garden	\$ 0



If you have any questions, would like to make an appointment or need a copy of the Memorial Garden and Columbarium policies, rules and regulations, please contact the church office:
919-477-0509 extension 311.

Aldersgate Memorial Garden and Columbarium



SACRED and REMEMBRANCE



The Aldersgate Memorial Garden and Columbarium shall be hallowed ground, sacred to the memory of those who have departed from our midst. This peaceful, welcoming Memorial Garden provides a final earthly resting place and a quiet place for visitation and meditation.

THE BACKGROUND OF A COLUMBARIUM MINISTRY

For many centuries cemeteries were commonly found in churchyards, allowing churches to minister to the spiritual needs of their members, from baptism through life to death. Clearly, urban churches cannot build cemeteries today. But there is a modern alternative, which more churches are offering their members: The Columbarium.

A columbarium is a collection of niches designed to house containers for cremated human remains (cremains). The word “columbarium” comes from columba or dove, meaning a series of recessed niches.

BENEFITS OF A COLUMBARIUM

Spiritual Site for Final Resting – Affords church members and their families the opportunity to select their final resting place within the church that has been central to their lives.

Pastoral Care in Perpetuity – Aldersgate provides a sacred site of beauty and dignity where loved ones can visit and meditate at anytime they visit the church.

Simplicity of Planning – The purchase of a columbarium niche eliminates the pressures of choosing a burial site, casket, vault, and monument. It also eliminates the need to plan for internment and memorial services at different locations and times. There is also a substantial financial savings.

WHO MAY USE THE COLUMBARIUM?

Aldersgate UMC members, spouses of members, children or stepchildren of members, parents or step-parents of members, current or past ministers/spouses of this church and other persons with strong ties to Aldersgate United Methodist Church if approved by the Memorial Garden & Columbarium Committee after a written request.

HOW MANY NICHE ARE IN THE COLUMBARIUM?

The columbarium has 64 niches. Burials are limited to inurnment of ashes of cremated humans only. A simple container is placed inside the assigned niches with the capacity to hold the remains of two (2) people. Each niche is covered with a marker, uniform in size, engraved with the name, date of birth and date of death of the deceased. Certain designated niches may be subdivided and sold as half niches.

HOW IS THE COLUMBARIUM SUPPORTED FINANCIALLY ?

The columbarium is entirely self-funded through the sale of niches, and donations.

HOW MUCH DOES A NICHE COST AND HOW ARE THEY PURCHASED ?

This depends on when the niche is reserved or purchased. (See Fee Schedule on back) Assigned niches for inurnment in the columbarium are assigned upon down payment or full payment at the time of the reservation. The reservation of a niche and full payment gives the right to inurnment of cremated remains. Please contact the church office for a selection of a niche and submission of application forms.

MAY I SELECT THE NICHE THAT I WANT?

Niches are allocated in accordance with the desires of each applicant on a first-come, first-served basis, determined by the date of receipt of a fully completed, paid-in-full application.

