



### **Why should RUMC build and maintain a columbarium?**

The church believes providing this service enhances our spiritual lives and provides a sacred place for meditation and remembrance. The RUMC Columbarium will be a holy, respectful, and economical option as a burial location.

From birth and baptism, to death and eternal life, the church cares for and ministers to people. Traditionally for Christians, the consecrated grounds of the church have been the most fitting place for burial. As one drives the countryside, cemeteries are frequently seen adjacent to established churches. Many churches in recent years have dedicated a portion of their property to create a columbarium for cremated human remains - inurnment.



### **Who may be inurned in RUMC's columbarium?**

Members of RUMC and their families, former RUMC members and their families, and others with prior approval of the Columbarium Board are eligible to be inurned in the columbarium.

### **What are the rules of inurnment?**

The reservation of a niche and payment of the fee gives the purchaser the right to name the designee to be inurned, subject to the rules of eligibility. RUMC only provides the niches, urns, engraving of the granite niche cover and inurnment. RUMC is not responsible for engraving or etching of the urn or for any other funeral expenses.

### **Can I put more than one urn in my niche?**

Yes. The RUMC niches will be designed to hold a maximum of two urns. Under no circumstances will more than two cremains be allowed in a single niche.

### **Will there be a Memorial Wall?**

Yes. A Memorial Wall will be a focal point of the internal part of the columbarium. It will be made of granite and the names of the deceased may be inscribed on it.

### **What happens if I purchase a niche in the columbarium and then move away?**

If the purchaser finds it necessary to relinquish the niche after payment of the Use Fee and said niche has been unused, RUMC has the right to release the niche. RUMC will refund to the purchaser the original Use Fee less \$500 for administrative cost. However, if said niche has been previously used and is vacated, the purchaser is not entitled to any refund.





The RUMC Columbarium has been carefully planned and will be designed to be a beautiful memorial for a loved one. It will be a place of rest and peaceful reflection for all who seek a quiet place to be in communion with God.

**What is the cost of a niche?**

\$3000 – for a niche and one inurnment

\$250 – for a second urn to be placed in the same niche (two maximum)

Includes one urn and an engraved plaque. It does not include cost of cremation.

\$800 for an engraving on the Memorial Wall (Name/Date of Birth/Date of Death)

**I'm interested in pursuing a niche in the RUMC columbarium. What are my next steps?**

1. Contact the Columbarium Board or Church Administrator.
2. Choose a niche.
3. Pay for a niche.  
Full payment required at time of purchase.  
Checks should be payable to RUMC.
4. Confirmation from RUMC includes:  
A Columbarium Use Agreement.  
A copy of columbarium by-laws.  
A copy of your payment.



The Riverchase United Methodist Church (RUMC) Columbarium is a completely self-funding project through the sale of columbarium niches, memorials, and contributions. For more information, contact Stuart Garrette at the Church Office [Stuart@riverchaseumc.org](mailto:Stuart@riverchaseumc.org) (205-987-4030).

[www.riverchaseumc.org](http://www.riverchaseumc.org)



# Columbarium



**What is a columbarium?**

A columbarium is a consecrated structure used for the inurnment of the deceased after cremation. The term is derived from the Latin word "columba" which means dovecote. This structure is a place where the remains of a loved one are treated with respect and dignity.