

What is the Woodlawn Memorial Garden?

Woodlawn Memorial Garden is home to our columbarium, a free-standing structure comprised of niches or compartments in which urns containing cremated remains are placed. Each niche is enclosed by a stone front, on which the name and years of birth and death of the deceased are engraved.

Why does Woodlawn UMC have the columbarium?

There are many reasons, including...

- Cremation is growing in popularity as an affordable and respectful option for planning funerals. It costs less than one-half the cost of traditional burial.
- Providing a place for cremains is environmentally sound. A niche in a columbarium takes up much less green space than a plot in a cemetery.
- People of faith commonly turn to the church when a loved one dies. Many find comfort in burial options that express the deceased's affiliation with the church and desire an expression of that affiliation to continue beyond death.
- Offering an on-site burial option is an additional way for the church to minister to the bereaved.
- It is a reminder of preceding generations, and a sacred place for contemplation on the meaning of faith and eternal life.

Why is the columbarium important to me?

It provides peace of mind. Being prepared means your loved ones won't have the burden of trying to manage your wishes and the cost that goes with it. It is accessible and comforting and is the only columbarium in Panama City Beach.

Who may be inurned in the columbarium?

- Members of Woodlawn United Methodist Church
- Immediate family of Woodlawn UMC members
- Members of another UMC in the Alabama-West Florida Conference



How much does a niche cost?

The cost of a niche is \$1,000, which can accommodate two urns. The purchase price includes the niche space, initial inurnment of the cremains, urn label, opening and closing of the niche officiated by a WUMC pastor, choice of niche location, maintenance of the inurnment site, and maintaining records of use and administration of the columbarium in perpetuity.

Are there any other expenses incurred? The cremation, engraving of the niche plate, special urn, memorial service, additional inurnment of cremains, honoraria for the pastor, musician, etc. are additional expenses not included in the niche cost.

What is the process to purchase a niche?

Call the church office at 850-234-3196 and make an appointment. At the time of purchase, the niche is paid for and an agreement is signed that clearly outlines the conditions of the purchase and the obligations of the church to maintain the columbarium. Niches are available on a first come, first served basis.

For further information on the columbarium, visit woodlawnpcb.org/columbarium



...and willing
rather to be
absent from the body,
and to be
present with the Lord.
2nd Corinthians 5:8

Woodlawn Memorial Garden

**A Sacred Place
Where People
Are Remembered**



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