

# CHURCH OF THE LAKES COLUMBARIUM

## FAQ SHEET

### **What is a Columbarium?**

A Columbarium is a place where the cremated ashes of the deceased may be kept as part of the Church structure. The Columbarium at Church of the Lakes helps to restore the tradition of the resting-place being located at the place of worship.

### **Why Select a Columbarium?**

The site is a place of beauty and dignity where friends and family can visit and meditate at any time.

**Simplicity of Arrangements.** It eliminates the pressures of choosing a burial site, casket, vault and monument. It provides a place for internment immediately adjacent to the Sanctuary.

**Substantial Financial Savings.** The combined cost of a columbarium niche and cremation are significantly less than the cost of a casket, burial site and marker.

### **Where is the Columbarium located?**

The Columbarium is located in the Prayer Chapel on the east side of the Sanctuary.

### **How many niches does the Columbarium have?**

The columbarium has the capacity for 432 niches. Each niche is able to accommodate the cremated remains of two people.

### **Who oversees the Columbarium?**

A Columbarium Committee, appointed by the Board of Trustees, oversees the operation of the Columbarium.

### **Who may use the Columbarium?**

Those eligible for inurnment in the Columbarium are: members of Church of the Lakes and their immediate family members (parents, spouses and children, natural, adopted, foster or step); Ordained Ministers of the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church and those who served the Church of the Lakes, others proposed by the Senior Pastor and approved by the Columbarium Committee.

### **What is the fee?**

The fee to purchase a double niche in the columbarium for the remains of two people is \$1,150 - \$800 plus a one-time inurnment fee of \$350. See below for payment options.

### **What is included in the fee?**

The \$350 fee includes opening and closing the niche for inurnment, an engraved bronze plaque and perpetual care. Each niche will accommodate the cremated remains of two people when packaged properly by the funeral director. The fee does not cover the cost of cremation or urns.

**How do I purchase a niche?**

Application forms and copies of the Rules and Regulations are available in the Church Office. Mail or bring the completed application and payment of the fee to the Church Secretary. Once your application has been processed and payment in full has been received, a Certificate of Purchase will be mailed to the owner of the niche.

**How do I pay the fees?**

You may pay by check (payable to *Church of the Lakes*) or cash.

**Other payment options**

Church of the Lakes does have a payment plan. An initial deposit of \$200 is required, followed by 12 monthly payments of \$50. Contact the Church Office to arrange this.

**May I select the niche location?**

Yes, you may select your own niche. The Church Office maintains a schematic of niches currently available.

**What happens if I purchase a niche and decide not to use it?**

Church of the Lakes does not offer refunds on columbarium niches.

**What if I have already made other burial arrangements?**

Should you prefer inurnment in our Columbarium, you should contact the facility with which you made arrangements to learn how those arrangements can be terminated.

**What if I have additional questions?**

If you would like more information on The Columbarium, please contact the Church Secretary (330 499-8972). She will be happy to answer any questions you may have or put you in contact with The Columbarium Committee, if needed.

**Columbarium Rules**

The official Rules and Regulations for The Columbarium at the Church of the Lakes regulate the functioning of the columbarium, and the forgoing information is offered to provide help in understanding these matters.