

NICHE INFORMATION

Each niche is 11"x11" in size and capable of holding the cremated remains of one or two persons. The cost of a niche is \$750 and includes a bronze plaque inscribed with the name of the person(s) whose ashes will be contained within the niche.

For more information regarding the purchase of a niche, please contact the church office at 616-754-8532.



COLUMBARIUM NICHES

First United Methodist Church

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**First United Methodist Church
Greenville, Michigan**

COLUMBIARIUM OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH





STAINED GLASS
WINDOWS
DEPICTING LIFE
FROM BIRTH TO
DEATH

The purpose of the Columbarium of First United Methodist Church of Greenville, Michigan is to provide a special place at the church for the inurnment of ashes of the deceased. The word “columbarium” is derived from the Latin word “Columba”, meaning “dove”, the symbol of God’s spirit and peace. This place is set aside as a fitting way for cremated bodies to be laid to rest and be surrounded by the continual praise and worship of God in whose keeping are the living and the dead.

The concept of interment or burial in consecrated ground is both theologically and practically sound. If the church is the center of life including baptism, confirmation, marriage, and worship, then death and burial should be centered here as well. Planning a hallowed place of inurnment within the church revives the ancient Christian tradition of having the mortal remains of members of the Christian community located as near as possible to the place of community worship.

The Columbarium is elegant, yet simple, with beautiful oak paneling and columns overlooking the Tower Doors Garden. Sunshine streams through beautiful stained glass windows, created by members of First United Methodist Church, depicting the various stages of life from birth through death. The stone floor was imported from King Solomon’s Quarry in the Holy City of Jerusalem along with the meditation bench and window ledges. Two symbols embedded in the floor contain stones from the Black Sea, Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee with the center black stone coming from a narrow path which led to the home of the High Priest, Caiaphas, where Jesus was led before being taken to Pontius Pilate. All these details come together to create a peaceful and serene resting place.

SUNLIGHT STREAMING
THROUGH THE BEAUTIFUL
STAINED GLASS
WINDOWS



STONE FLOOR MADE
FROM TILES AND STONES
IMPORTED FROM KING
SOLOMON'S QUARRY IN
JERUSALEM

A PRAYER OF COMMENDATION FOR THE DEAD

Into your hands, O merciful Father, we commend your servant. Acknowledge, we beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive our loved one into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of all the saints in light. Amen

A PRAYER FOR OURSELVES

Lord Jesus, by your death you took away the sting of death. Grant to us, your servants, so to follow where you have led the way, that we may fall asleep peacefully in you and awake in your likeness; to you, the author and giver of life, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.