



The Columbarium and SULLIVAN GARDENS

First Presbyterian Church

NASHVILLE

ABOUT *the*
Columbarium
and SULLIVAN
GARDENS

The church speaks to us and ministers to us at all of the meaningful events in our lives, from the cradle to the grave. We celebrate baptisms, confirmations and marriages within the church. Together, we try to meet the needs of others during illnesses, times of crisis and finally death.

A vital ministry of this congregation is caring for the members and families of First Presbyterian Church at their time of death. The Columbarium provides a comforting and protected resting place for people who have invested their lives in the ministry of this church.

Sullivan Gardens, the setting for our Columbarium, instills a sense of peace and God's presence. The Columbarium area in Sullivan Gardens has been landscaped to complement the granite markers designating the sites for interment. Cast bronze markers identify the deceased and hold for generations to follow their birth and death dates. The lush green grass covering the urns holding the ashes reminds us of the Scripture "ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

The first phase of our Columbarium was dedicated in 1992 on Easter morning. We have a total of 648 spaces, with 488 spaces that are either occupied or reserved by our church members and their families. There are nearly 160 spaces that are still available.



WHO CAN BE INTERRED HERE?

The niches are reserved for past and present church members and their immediate family. Any staff member at First Presbyterian Church working for 10 or more years will be eligible to purchase a space in the Columbarium for themselves, their spouse and any dependent children. Traditional funeral or committal services may continue as usual in the church. Each niche bears a plate indicating the person's legal name and dates of birth and death.

MAY I CHOOSE A PARTICULAR NICHE?

The choice of the niche or niches is up to you, offered on a "first-come" basis, which will receive perpetual care under the supervision of the Session of the church.

WHAT ABOUT COSTS?

The Columbarium offers a very cost effective burial arrangement. You and your family may commit to having your remains interred by signing an agreement for this right. The cost is \$500 per right of interment, plus the cost of the urn and bronze marker at the time of interment.

WHAT IS A COLUMBARIUM?

A columbarium is an area consecrated to the perpetual housing of the remains of the deceased. The name "columbarium" is derived from the Latin word *columba*, which means dove, the symbol of God's Spirit and peace.

WHY A COLUMBARIUM AT THE CHURCH?

During our lifetime, the church has been our spiritual home and it is therefore an appropriate place to remain. The Columbarium is a modern version of the earlier burial in a church courtyard. Churchyard cemeteries were a tradition in Europe and America. They can still be found near historic places as well as small country churches. There is something very comforting about being laid to rest near the church in which you worshiped.



*For contract information and plot location availability,
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