

## Purpose

The Columbarium of Westminster Presbyterian Church has been created to provide for the spiritual well-being of the Church members at times of death and bereavement. It will also establish a final consecrated resting place for evidence of Christian witnesses, a symbolic statement of the unity of Christian community and a peaceful gathering place for families and friends. It will provide a space for depositing cremated human remains of deceased Church members and other eligible persons.

## Eligibility

Inurnment in the Columbarium shall be limited to the cremated human remains of any member or former member of the Church, and members of his or her immediate family.

## Memorial Wall

In conjunction with the Columbarium, a Memorial Wall has been created for the purpose of memorializing deceased Church members, former members, and their families who are interred or inurned elsewhere.

## History

The word "columbarium" comes from the Latin word for dove or pigeon, and refers literally to a place where doves or pigeons live; the dove being the symbol of God's spirit and peace. The term has been used for centuries all around the world where burial vaults are used for holding cremated human remains.



**For more information, please contact:**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**

westminstercharleston.org  
1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd.  
Charleston, SC 29407  
843.766.8311

## Westminster Presbyterian Church Memorial Garden



*Creating an option  
for Christian  
burials at our  
church home.*





## Questions & Answers

### Why build a Columbarium?

There is an increasing awareness of the benefits of cremation. Through the Columbarium, WPC will provide its members a dignified and beautiful setting for housing the cremains, all at a reasonable cost to its members.

### How much does cremation cost?

Prices vary widely, but several reputable companies in our area offer cremation for around \$1,000 or less.

### Who is paying for the Columbarium?

An initial contribution of \$30,000 from the Kilpatrick Trust was made towards beginning construction. The remainder of the cost to construct and perpetually maintain the Columbarium and Memorial Garden is being self-funded through the sale of the niches.

### How do I select a Crematorium?

Westminster Presbyterian Church does not endorse specific funeral homes. However, you will receive a sample list of homes, with their prices, for your selection. The urn used must be furnished by WPC.

### How much does a niche cost?

Each niche can hold up to two urns. The cost for single urn niches is currently \$1,500. The current cost for niches containing two urns is \$2,250. These fees include the urn(s), all costs directly associated with inurnment, inscription of names and dates, and perpetual care of the Columbarium.

### How much does a plaque on the Memorial Wall cost?

The current one-time fee to place a plaque on the Memorial Wall is \$500 per individual being memorialized. This fee includes cost of the plaque, inscription of the name and dates, and maintenance of the Memorial Wall.

### May I select the niche I want?

Niche assignments are allocated in accordance with the desires of each applicant on a first-come, first-served basis. This will be determined by the date of receipt of a fully completed, paid in-full application.

Formal application forms and the full list of the Rules, Policies, and Regulations governing the Westminster Presbyterian Church Columbarium and Memorial Wall can be obtained from the church office.