

The Columbarium in the Garth

Idlewild's columbarium is an important part of the church grounds. The Session voted on and approved having the columbarium in the garth. It is located in the ground on the south side of the garth between the arches along the cloister walkway. The area is landscaped and benches are in place for meditation.

What Is a Columbarium?

A columbarium is a place for inurnment of cremated human remains. It usually consists of a series of spaces in the ground or niches in a wall, providing a secure place for dignified repose of remains and a memorial to those who have gone before.

The church expresses no preference between cremation and earth burial; although growing numbers of people of all faiths are choosing cremation.

Who Is Eligible to Be Buried at Idlewild?

- Members of the congregation of Idlewild Presbyterian Church.
- Spouses of members, children or step-children of members, parents of members.
- Current or former ministers of the church and their spouses and children.



How Can I Learn More?

For information about Idlewild's columbarium please contact Jessica Demster in the church office, 901-726-4681 or email jdemster@idlewildchurch.org



Burial Cost and Planning

- Each space will cost \$3,000. One or two urns may be placed in each space.
- The family of the deceased must deal with a funeral home for the cremation and selection of urn to be used.
- Services for the inurnment of cremated remains will be planned by the ministers of the church in consultation with the deceased's family. Only an ordained minister may conduct the service.
- All matters relating to the columbarium will be subject to the review, oversight and control of the Session of Idlewild Presbyterian Church and the Columbarium Committee.



Is Cremation Consistent with Christian Belief?

Some may wonder if cremation is consistent with the Christian belief in the resurrection of the dead. Unlike the ancient Egyptians, we do not believe that our eternal hope is in any way contingent upon the preservation of one's earthly remains. St. Paul, who describes resurrection with the metaphor of a seed's germination, assures us that while the body is "sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body." (1 Corinthians 15:44)



IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

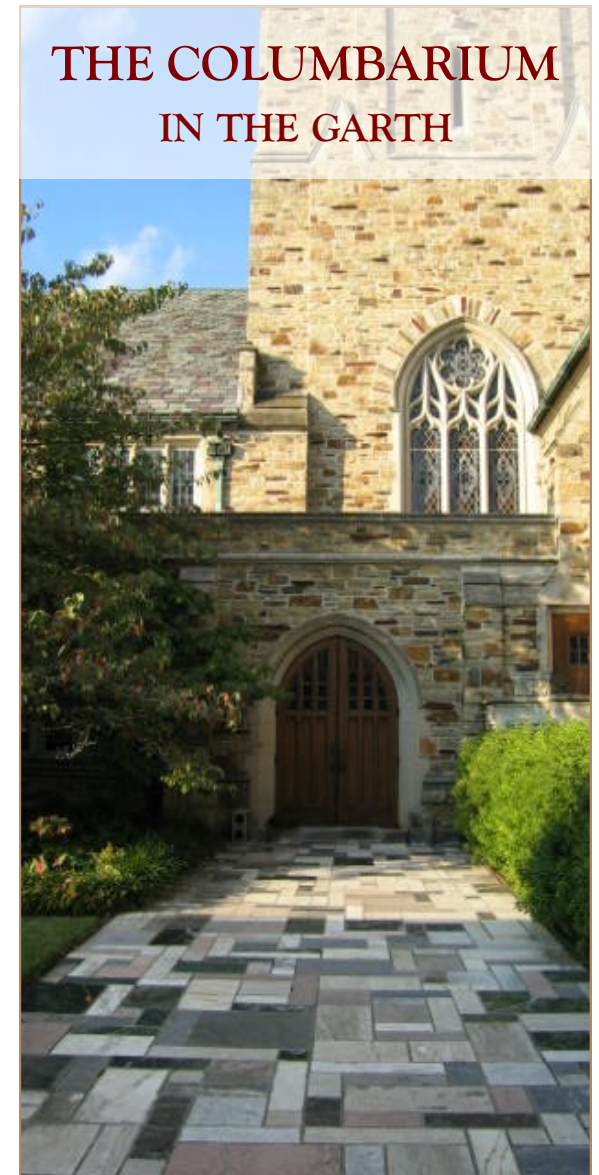
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