



## The Columbarium

Emerywood Baptist Church offers an alternative to burial through our columbarium. Our memorial garden serves as a resting place for the cremated remains of our loved ones.

It is both comforting and strengthening to have a place of remembrance here. In particular, there is an understandable measure of peace drawn from the time-honored practice of burial within the churchyard.

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

The word “columbarium” comes from the Latin word “columbary” which is a structure for the nesting of doves – the dove being the symbol of God’s spirit and peace. The related word, columbarium, refers to a burial vault for the containment of urns holding cremated human remains.

### **Is cremation Biblically sound?**

Cremation is widely recognized as a theologically valid process for the

deceased, and essentially is a hastening of the natural process that occurs following death. This ancient practice has particular relevance for us today, since burial near churches is less of an option. Cremation makes it possible to continue the tradition of granting a place for God's children to "dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

### **What are the benefits?**

Families who choose cremation for their departed loved ones, rather than conventional burial, will find the EBC Memorial Garden a wonderful choice. It's dignified, convenient, and affordable. In addition, it's very convenient for funeral ceremonies – funeral congregations can walk from the church to gather in the garden and visually take part in the interment service. Not only will the Memorial Garden be self-sustaining, but 100 percent of the proceeds from the purchase of each niche supports the many ministries of our church.

### **Who may use the EBC Memorial Garden?**

The garden is reserved exclusively for members of the church and their extended families.

### **Who do I contact for more information?**

When making decisions about final provisions for you and your family, you may call the Church office to learn more at 336.885.6016.

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