

# Congregational Church of New Fairfield United Church of Christ

20 Gillotti Road  
New Fairfield, CT 06812  
(203) 746-2865  
[office@ccnf-ucc.org](mailto:office@ccnf-ucc.org)

## Columbaria Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

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

The word "columbarium" comes from the Latin word "columbarium," 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. The Congregational Church of New Fairfield has three columbaria - The Memorial Wall of the Martha Fairchild Memorial Garden and two free-standing, tile-faced structures that lay just outside the garden. Each of these two free-standing columbaria holds sixty (60) niches.

### **What is the Memorial Wall?**

The Memorial Wall is a masonry stonewall columbarium comprised of 138 cylindrical niches for inurned human remains. Each niche is approximately 10" x 12," and two niches are stacked, one atop the other, within the wall and below a bluestone coping. The Memorial Wall columbarium spans the North and West borders of the Martha Fairchild Memorial Garden.

### **What is inurnment?**

The word *inurnment* means the placement of cremated human remains in an urn.

### **What is interment?**

Usually, the term *interment* refers to burial; however, with the increase in cremation, *interment* now means *placing in a final resting place*. It's the place where a person is laid to rest permanently, whether buried or inurned.

### **How is the property maintained?**

The Columbarium is the property of the Congregational Church New Fairfield. The Columbaria will be maintained by the Columbaria Committee with funds dedicated for this purpose.

### **What is the cost of interment?**

The current cost of interment in a columbaria at the CCNF is posted on the CCNF website and in the CCNF office. Please see the Columbaria Fee Schedule for the fees associated with interment.

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

If you would like to know more about interment at the Congregational Church of New Fairfield (CCNF), please review the *Columbaria Rules and Regulations* on the CCNF website, complete a "Right of Interment Application" form (found on the website), and mail it or return it in person to the CCNF office. A member of the Columbaria Committee will reach out to address your questions.