

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**72 Lake Morton Drive**  
**Lakeland, Florida**

**APPLICATION FOR NICHE RESERVATION**

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Making Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Bronze work Information: (Each line not to exceed 16 letters including spaces)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of applicant to deceased: \_\_\_\_\_

*PLEASE COMPLETE ONE APPLICATION FOR EACH NICHE.  
ONE NICHE WILL HOLD THE CREMAINS OF ONE PERSON.*

My choice for a niche is as follows: Niche Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the attached rules and regulations for placement in the First United Methodist Church's Columbarium and agree to abide by such rules.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

*For Business Office Use Only*

Date Received: _____		By: _____	
Assignment: _____	Section Number: _____	Niche Number: _____	
Information for Bronzework: (Each name line not to exceed 16 letters including spaces)			
Name(s): _____		_____	
Last Name: _____		_____	
Year of Birth: _____	Year of Death: _____		_____
Final Payment Received: _____		Total Paid: _____	
Certificate Received: _____		Interment Date: _____	



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Lakeland, Florida

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The ashes of members of First United Methodist Church and their immediate family members may be placed in the Columbarium of First United Methodist Church. The term "immediate family" as used here shall include the church member, the spouse of the member, their parents, the children of the church member and/or his or her spouse, and such other persons as may be found to have been a part of the member's immediate family.

The Columbarium shall consist of niches, uniform in size, for the placement of ashes of cremated bodies. Each niche shall have a bronze nameplate of uniform size, on which shall be engraved only the name of the deceased, year of birth and year of death. The ashes of one person only may be placed in each niche.

First United Methodist Church shall at all times have full control of the Columbarium. Such control shall be exercised through a Columbarium Committee appointed by the Board of Trustees of First United Methodist church. This committee shall consist of at least three persons, including the Senior Pastor, one Trustee, and one other member of First United Methodist Church who may or may not be a Trustee. This committee shall make recommendations to the Trustees concerning the upkeep, maintenance, improvement and changes to the Columbarium.

Legal title to all niches shall at all times remain in the church. The exclusive right to place in a Columbarium niche the cremated remains of an eligible person, and to keep them there as long as the Columbarium shall be maintained, is based on the following terms:

a. The purchaser of this exclusive right, upon fulfilling the terms of the "Contract to Purchase Columbarium Niche at First United Methodist Church," shall receive a certificate of purchase, sealed with the corporate seal of the church, and signed by the Senior Pastor, attesting to his or her ownership of the contents of a specified niche as personal property. There will be no assignments or future charges after the purchase price has been paid in full according to the terms of the above mentioned contract.

b. No interest in property, real or otherwise, is conveyed by the church nor is acquired by the undersigned, except that the undersigned does acquire the privilege of use of a columbarium niche only for the purpose of burial of cremated remains of the eligible person specified on the contract and named on the certificate.

c. The use of the columbarium niche shall not be sold, conveyed, transferred, or otherwise assigned in any manner except as duly authorized by First United Methodist Church. Upon violation of this provision, the undersigned's privilege of use shall terminate and shall revert to the church. The columbarium niche shall at all times remain the sole property of First United Methodist Church.

d. The Columbarium shall be located on the property of First United Methodist Church, 72 Lake Morton Drive, Lakeland, Florida. The church reserves the right to move the Columbarium to another location on its grounds, should it become necessary to do so.

e. The price of such exclusive right shall be set by the committee and approved by the Administrative Board. The purchase shall be uniform at any given time, regardless of the location of the niche selected. The right to select an individual niche or niches will be given in the order in which applications and initial payments are received. However, in cases of those who purchase their niche on an installment plan, failure to make payment within thirty (30) days of due date can result in the revocation of the right to the chosen niche and its return to the list of those available.

*(Contract could impose a penalty for additional paperwork if selection is revoked, or another niche is chosen. Also, if no payment has been made for 90 days, niche(s) may revert to the church and payments forfeited.)*

f. During the pre-construction sale of niches, selection of niches will be in order of the receipt of completed paperwork and full payment for niche or niches. When the Columbarium or portion of it covered by pre-construction process is completed, those who purchased niches may have the right to change their selection to any available niche. Such changes would have to be made within one month of the completion of construction.

No cremated remains may be placed in a Columbarium niche without a committal service, either as part of the funeral, or at the time of placement in the Columbarium, according to the desires of the family.

All monies received on account of the Columbarium shall be deposited in a bank account so designated. Withdrawals may be made in appropriate cases by check and will be signed by persons authorized to do so from time to time by the Columbarium Committee.

No flowers, real or artificial, shall be allowed in or at the Columbarium except at the time of the burial or placement of ashes.

Applications for the purchase of a niche in the Columbarium shall be submitted in writing to the Columbarium Committee together with such pertinent information as the Committee shall require. Upon approval and payment of fees as stated in the contract, a Columbarium *Certificate of Purchase* will be issued.

A niche may be opened and the contents removed for good cause shown to the satisfaction of the columbarium Committee, upon payment of any costs incurred in returning the niche to pre-sale condition, plus a fee for the time of use of the Columbarium. These costs will be paid by the person requesting the removal. Any such circumstances shall be duly noted in the Columbarium records. Any such opening for removal shall be as allowed by law.

The Senior Pastor or his designee, shall place the ashes of any person in the Columbarium.

A complete record of all transactions regarding the purchase and placement of ashes in any niche in the Columbarium shall be kept on file in the office of First United Methodist Church, Lakeland, Florida.

All owners of niches shall be subject to these Rules and Regulations as they now exist and as they may be amended by the Church in the future. Any questions which arise concerning the Columbarium not covered in the Certificate of Purchase or in these Rules and Regulations shall be determined by the Columbarium Committee subject to approval by the Administrative Board.

A copy of these Rules and Regulations shall be given to each person upon purchase of niche.

July, 1993