



Our Senior Pastor and his wife

THE REVEREND DR. NORMAN BROADBENT
AND JAN BROADBENT

MISSION STATEMENT

God calls the Church into being. In response we love God and each other. We provide a place in a changing world where the constancy of God's love and compassion is known through the example of Jesus Christ. We celebrate our life together through ministries of prayer and worship, music and education, stewardship and outreach. We share the stories of our faith and spiritual journeys. We connect with the mysteries of God's grace, the miracle of restorative faith, and the power of ritual myth. We live with compassion for all God's creation. We dispel isolation and alienation, witnessing to the joy of an open and affirming Christian life. Strengthened and transformed by our faith, we go out into the wider community offering the message of hope and reconciliation to all people.



About the Chapel Columbarium

The Columbarium is installed much like a set of built-in-bookcases within the east wall of the chapel. At its maximum development, there will be four separate units, each containing 32 niches.

Columbarium units are faced with bronze art panels depicting a grapevine, in reference to the words of Jesus, "I am the vine, you are the branches" (John 15:5) the panels also have nameplates identifying the interred. Cremation ashes are deposited in individual spun-aluminum cylinders behind the bronze panels.

Wayne and Rosalie Brown designed and installed the original first phase of the columbarium. Mike Colby donated & built the second phase. This included his time, talent, & materials. Armento Liturgical Arts of Buffalo, NY provided fabrication and bronze casting.

2131 N. VAN NESS BOULEVARD
FRESNO, CA 93704

THE CHAPEL

COLUMBARIUM



WELCOME

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

CHURCH OF FRESNO

The Columbarium Ministry



WHAT IS A COLUMBARIUM?

A columbarium is a group of small compartments or "niches" designed to hold the cremated remains of loved ones who have died.

While many cemeteries have columbaria, a number of congregations do also. Interment within or around the church has long been an acceptable practice in Christian communions, and offers many advantages.

First Congregational Church of Fresno voted in 1995 to begin the columbarium ministry.



The columbarium ministry provides an inexpensive, earth-friendly, church based alternative to various interment options available elsewhere. Columbarium niches are offered to First Congregational Church of Fresno members and their immediate families through a simple written agreement specifying all rights and obligations.

The columbarium is entirely self-supporting through a modest on-tie contractual and endowment fee. Currently the cost of a single niche is \$1,200.00, of which half is set aside as tax-deductible endowment. The all-inclusive charge covers the basic interment space itself, the special canister which holds the cremated remains, the engraved nameplate, and the opening and closing of the niche, as well as on-going maintenance and administration of the columbarium.

Minturn Chapel is always a particularly appropriate setting for intimate memorial services which include interment in the columbarium. The pastoral staff of First Congregational Church is available to serve member families in their time of need, and on request, will gladly confer regarding all aspects of the columbarium ministry.

The columbarium is administered by a committee appointed by the Church Council and the Senior Pastor (ex. Officio). Currently these members are Dr. Donald Pirl, Walter Banks, Don Blosser, Judy Frost, Wilma Weber (Chairperson),

Dr. Rev. Norman Broadbent and James Harris. Financial and contractual records are maintained through the church office. For further information about the Chapel Columbarium, please contact the church office or any of the members of the Columbarium Committee.

**PEACE BE TO THIS CHAPEL AND
COLUMBARIUM, AND ALL PRAYERS
UTTERED HERE.**



Fill this Chapel with your Holy Spirit.