

Where Does the Funding Come From?

Funds are sought from congregational members and friends of St. John's Lutheran Church. There are several ways you can contribute:

- **Outright Gifts** may be given to the St. John's Lutheran Church Endowment Fund in the form of cash, assignments of life insurance policies, real estate and securities.
- **Specific Bequests** of a dollar amount, a percentage of one's estate or specific piece of property.
- **Contingent Bequests** designating the Fund as the beneficiary if other beneficiaries do not survive.
- **Residuary Bequests** designating the Fund to receive the remainder of one's estate after all specific bequests have been made.
- **Gifts of Life Insurance** may be an excellent option as they may not affect current cash flow or because large gifts may be possible at a relatively inexpensive cost. Gifting policies no longer needed or designating the church as the primary beneficiary of a percentage of proceeds are quite common.
- **Assignments** of certificates of deposit, annuities and unused retirement plan benefits, as "payable on death to St. John's Lutheran Church" are another simple and effective gift plan.
- **Charitable Remainder Trusts and Gift Annuities** may be created for the benefit of the congregation with life-time income retained by the donor.

Note: Gift and estate tax benefits should be discussed with your accountant, financial advisor, or attorney.

How Can I Help?

If you like the idea of putting faith into action, contact a member of the committee or the Pastor and make a tax-deductible contribution to the St. John's Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.

Contact us with suggestions about projects you would like the committee to be aware of. We would like to hear from you.

Thank you for considering a gift to the St. John's Lutheran Church Endowment Fund. Your gift is your legacy that will make a difference in the life and mission of St. John's for generations to come.

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Connecting with
Christ

**ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ENDOWMENT FUND**

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

Mission Statement

The St. John's Endowment Fund was established as a permanent endowment fund to provide a long-term capital base to which congregational members can contribute and leave a legacy focused on mission outreach locally, nationally and internationally.

Purpose

The purpose of the endowment is to:

- Encourage congregational members to share their wealth to improve the lives others in our global community.
- Responsibly oversee the administration and investment of donations as an endowment in perpetuity.
- To distribute income generated by these investments for religious, educational, and charitable purposes and to extend the mission of the congregation to community programs, institutional ministries and other works of the church at home or abroad.

Who Decides?

A committee of four (4) directors, plus the Lead Pastor, serving as an advisory member, manages the activities of the Fund. The committee meets at least quarterly to establish policy, manage the assets and allocate the income.

How Will Income from the Endowment Fund Be Utilized?

Income will be used to extend the life and mission of the church and will not be used for any purpose that should be covered by the congregation's regular operating budget.

The three (3) areas designated for the distribution of funds are:

- Minimum of 20% and maximum of 60% for outreach into the community and synod. Example - grants to ELCA seminaries, colleges or students attending such schools. Also institutions and agencies to which this congregation relates and to special programs designed for those purposes in our parish area who are in spiritual and/or economic need.
- Minimum of 20% and maximum of 60% for mission work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in this continent and worldwide. This may include: grants to the ELCA for new congregational development in North America, professional leadership educational ministries, global mission, ecumenism, evangelism, social ministries, and capital financing.
- Minimum 20% and maximum of 60% for capital improvements, debt reduction, or a building program of St. John's Lutheran Church.

All programs identified for support shall be recommended by the committee to the Congregation Council for approval and funding.

Benefits?

The Endowment Fund is a "Win-Win" program.

- **For the contributor**, it allows the individual an opportunity to make decisions concerning their estate and assets which will provide a responsible stewardship ministry and proclaim God's love through their participation. Additionally the Endowment Fund can be included in the person's overall tax and estate planning process.
- **For the congregation**, it provides and opportunity to extend the scope of its mission with the proclamation of the Gospel in diverse ways through responsible corporate stewardship of resources provided.