

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION?

Our Endowment Fund partners with the Lutheran Community Foundation (LCF) in Minneapolis, Minnesota and invests in a collection of mutual funds designed to ensure our Endowment lasts forever. Its investments are directed by the Memorial Endowment Fund Committee, which is composed of members of Memorial Lutheran Church of Afton.

LCF provides in depth expertise through its professional staff that are available to work with you and your attorney, financial advisor and/or accountant to make a charitable gift that fits your own individual needs and motivations as well as those of the Endowment Fund.

If you are considering a gift to the Endowment Fund, you are encouraged to seek advice in pulling together a plan that is best suited for you.

Our Endowment Fund Committee can help.

More detailed information is available through The Lutheran Community Foundation located at

625 Fourth Avenue South,
Suite 1500,
Minneapolis, MN 55415.
Telephone: 800-365-4172
Website: www.TheLCF.org

WHY MAKE A GIFT TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND?

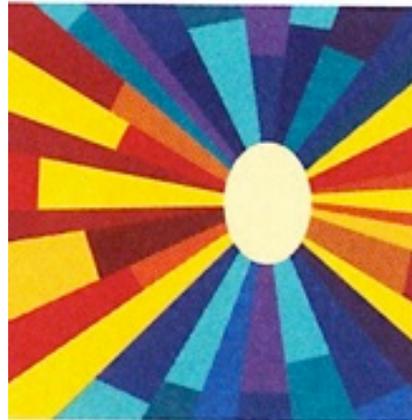
The tradition of charitable giving is as old as Lutheranism itself. During the Reformation, Martin Luther called upon people to set up a common chest from which food, clothing and other necessities could be distributed to people in need.

This tradition of giving and caring continues today. And it does not require great wealth to make a gift. One hundred gifts of \$100 to the Memorial Lutheran Church Endowment Fund goes just as far as one gift of \$10,000.

It helps ensure Memorial Lutheran Church is there for future generations. A strong endowment provides a stable base of income to protect against fluctuations in the financial well-being of our church.

For more information on how you can give to the Memorial Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, contact:

Memorial Lutheran Church of Afton
15730 S. Afton Blvd. PO Box 235
Afton, MN 55001
651-436-1138



Memorial Lutheran Church of Afton, MN Endowment Fund

DONORS



WHAT IS THE ENDOWMENT FUND?

A donation to our Endowment Fund is fundamentally different than other contributions to our church and its ministries.

An Endowment Fund like ours is conceived to last forever, expanding by gifts and donations. Your donation is not spent but left to grow to make it possible to make annual grants from the proceeds.

Your contribution goes to enlarge the Fund, enabling it to fund ever-larger projects through its return on investments. The Endowment Fund Committee, members of this congregation, is obliged not to spend those original donations but to safeguard them through wise and stable investments.

During times of rapid, excessive investment growth some of that excess is set-aside for leaner times. The rest, up to 5% of the overall Fund's value, is available for grants. During times of little or no investment growth we are able to use funds from those earlier, fatter years to continue making annual grants as long as we don't spend the original donations and contributions.

Your donation is allowed to live on forever, giving the Endowment Fund and this Church a lasting legacy of charitable, religious and educational gifting due to your help.

HOW CAN I GIVE TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND?

Donors can use a variety of methods to make contributions to the Endowment Fund. Gifts of all sizes and in many forms are welcome. Under today's tax laws*....

Cash/non-Cash Gifts

Cash A gift of cash is one way to realize your charitable objectives. Cash gifts qualify as a charitable deduction for federal income tax purposes and are currently fully deductible up to fifty percent (50%) of your adjusted gross income in the year that the gift is made. Deduction amounts exceeding this limit may be carried forward up to five (5) additional years.

Securities Gifts of appreciated securities held more than one year (readily marketable stocks, and stock in closely held companies) can also be given to the Endowment Fund. You can avoid the recognition of capital gains tax and deduct the full current fair market value of the gift of securities, equaling up to thirty percent (30%) of your adjusted gross income in the year of the gift. Deduction amounts exceeding this limit may be carried forward up to five (5) additional years.

Gifts of Income A number of plans allow you to make a gift to the Endowment Fund, and still receive an ongoing income for you, a spouse, your children, or others. Options include gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts (including unitrusts, annuity trusts, testamentary trusts and charitable lead trusts).

** Always consult with an expert for current tax issues*

Testamentary Gifts

Bequests and Memorials Through your will, you can perpetuate good works with a living memorial. The Endowment Fund can be a beneficiary of a portion of your estate, the recipient of a specific device or the ultimate beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust. The value of that device is deductible for federal estate tax purposes. In addition, any funeral memorials that are contributed in your memory can be directed to the Endowment.

Life Insurance There are several ways to give life insurance to the Endowment Fund. You can transfer the ownership of an existing life insurance policy, purchase a new contract of insurance in the name of the Endowment Fund or name the Endowment Fund as a beneficiary of the life insurance policy. In addition to estate tax benefits, the donor may also obtain a charitable income tax deduction for lifetime transfers.

Real Estate A gift of real property held for more than one (1) year currently can provide the same tax advantages as a gift of securities. Or you can continue to live in your home or even rent it and still qualify for an immediate charitable tax deduction by deeding the property to the Endowment Fund upon your death.

Retirement Assets One of the easiest ways to grow our Endowment Fund is through beneficiary designations of retirement funds. This allows you the ability to access the funds during life if and when you need them and still benefit your church upon your passing. Imagine the impact we can have in our faith community if each of us named a percentage of our retirement funds to benefit the Endowment Fund!