

## **FAQs About Leaving a Legacy to Faith Lutheran Church**

### **Q: How does my regular giving differ from a gift to the Endowment Fund?**

A: Your gift to the Endowment Fund is separate from your regular giving. The Endowment Fund is used specifically to expand the reach of Faith Lutheran Church as we work to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. These funds allow the congregation to reach beyond the annual mission spending plan for daily ministries and fund special projects that support Faith's mission to grow, proclaim and live the Faith.

### **Q: Who do I contact if I want to discuss a gift?**

A: Pastor Eric Carlson is happy to meet with you. Please contact him through the Faith Lutheran Church office at 515-225-8334, or email [eric@faithlc.org](mailto:eric@faithlc.org) to schedule a meeting.

### **Q: What types of gifts should I consider giving?**

A: Along with life insurance, here are several ways to give a legacy gift: Real Estate, Stock, Bequests, Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Qualified Charitable Distribution and Donor-Advised.

### **Q: Is the Endowment Fund part of the ELCA?**

A: Yes, contributions to Faith's Endowment Fund are pooled and invested by the ELCA Ministry Growth Fund. This allows the funds to be professionally managed while benefiting the larger church and follows the ELCA's guidelines for socially responsible investing. The Endowment Fund is a perpetual fund from which earnings are distributed annually. The distributions are awarded to various missions and/or programs as selected by the endowment committee. This ensures that your gift has an impact for generations to come.

### **Q: Does Faith Lutheran Church manage the investment funds?**

A: No. Once you have made a gift, the funds will be managed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. The endowment committee receives quarterly financial reports to monitor fund performance and provides the Church Council with periodic updates.

### **Q: I already have Faith Lutheran Church as a beneficiary in my estate plan. Do I need to do anything else?**

A: It's most helpful for the church to know that Faith Lutheran is a beneficiary of your estate. To help facilitate this, we ask that all those who name Faith Lutheran Church in their estate notify the church. If you would like assistance, please let us know.

### **Q: Is there a minimum gift amount?**

A: No, there is no minimum giving amount to the Endowment Fund.

**Q: Can I make a gift to the Endowment Fund if I am not a member of Faith?**

A: Yes, all are welcome to make a gift to Faith.

**Q: Can I leave a gift to Faith Lutheran without taking away from what I leave my immediate heirs?**

A: Yes, there are many ways to fulfill your charitable goals while still providing for your loved ones. Several vehicles for planned giving, such as life insurance, allow you to leave a variety of gifts to both a charity and individuals, while providing tax benefits to you. Contact Pastor Eric Carlson at [eric@faithlc.org](mailto:eric@faithlc.org) for more information.

**Q: How do I leave a gift in memory of a person or for a specified purpose?**

A: The best place to start is by contacting Pastor Eric Carlson at the church office or by email at [eric@faithlc.org](mailto:eric@faithlc.org). He will help you with the details to make a gift in memory of a person and direct it to the appropriate place.