

### Can a cash gift be made to the Endowment Fund?

Yes. Every member or friend of Trinity Lutheran Church may contribute cash to the **Endowment fund**. Single or periodic contributions will provide tremendous strength for the work of Christ's church through the **Endowment Fund**.

### Is it possible to give real estate or securities to the Endowment Fund?

Yes. The **Endowment Fund** welcomes these gifts. Real property, stocks, or bonds may be given as direct contribution. Generally, you are allowed to deduct for income tax purposes, the fair market value of these types of gifts.

### Can I give a life insurance gift to the Endowment Fund?

Yes. The purchase or assignment of life insurance, in which the **Endowment Fund** is the irrevocable beneficiary is another way to make a significant contribution. A charitable deduction may be claimed on your tax return for annual premiums. You may consider making an outright gift of an existing policy, or purchasing a new policy naming the church as owner and beneficiary.

### Is a trust gift possible for the Endowment Fund?

Yes. The trust is a legal devise which transfers money or property to a trustee, who manages it for the benefit of the donor. The donor receives a portion of the trust assets as annual income. When the benefits of the trust are fulfilled, the principal of the trust could become your gift to the **Endowment Fund**.

### Is a bequest gift possible for the Endowment Fund?

Yes. A monetary bequest is most commonly used in wills. It is simply a specified sum of money to be paid from the proceeds of your estate. However, because the value of your estate is variable, you may want to consider a bequest as a percentage of your estate rather than a fixed amount.

### Can I give a charitable gift annuity to the Endowment Fund?

Yes. This plan offers the greatest advantage to older members. It gives a guaranteed life income to the donor, with payments at any desired interval, and minimizes the burden of the estate tax. When the income benefits for one or two persons have been completed, the remainder becomes a gift to Trinity Lutheran Church.

### This logo is representative of the following:



*All that we have in this world is a gift from God. As we look into our hearts we can see that these gifts, given back in the form of a seed to the Endowment Fund, can continue our legacy of growing. This will allow our mission to others to grow abundantly.*

Please consult with your tax or legal advisor before proceeding with your estate plan. If you have questions about Trinity's Endowment Fund, please contact one of the Board of Trustees listed in the church directory.

## Trinity Lutheran Church

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# Endowment Fund



Where God is Glorified

## Church Center

330 W Halleck  
Papillion, NE 68046

## Family Life Center

520 W Lincoln  
Papillion, NE 68046



### **What is the Trinity Lutheran Church, Papillion, Endowment Fund?**

The **Endowment Fund** is a natural extension of our congregation's commitment to Christian stewardship. It was initiated in 1993. Its purpose is to receive gifts and bequests, which will be invested to produce income.

### **Why do we need an Endowment Fund?**

Gratitude is at the heart of Christian life, and our members have shown this time and again through their giving. The **Endowment Fund** provides an opportunity to continue giving into the future, through careful planning and prudent management of our God-given resources. For most of us, church gifts are the fruits of our current income. By making a will, and including in it a bequest to the church, you testify to your faith and gratitude. Through estate planning, you may be able to achieve stewardship goals that are not possible during your lifetime.

### **Does the Endowment fund replace the Memorial Fund?**

No, it does not. Frequently, Trinity Lutheran Church receives gifts in memory of, or in honor of, individuals and events into the Memorial Fund. The **Endowment Fund** is an alternative to the Memorial Fund.

### **How will the Endowment Fund be used?**

The **Endowment Fund** will enhance the mission of Trinity Lutheran Church, both at home and in the community at large. Its income may support scholarships, community ministry, special congregational projects or mission outreach through the na-

tional church body. None of the endowed money will be used to supplement regular, budgeted expenditures.

### **How will the Endowment Fund be administered?**

It is administered by a five-member committee of trustees. All members are elected by the congregation. Other members of the congregation with legal or investment expertise may be asked to serve as advisory members. The gift you make is called the principal. The principal is invested and the income which is earned becomes available for use. Principal amounts will not be spent. The **Endowment Fund Committee** will distribute the expenditure of the Fund's income according to needed programs identified and prioritized jointly by the Council and the trustees.

### **Does the Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund pay taxes?**

No, in fact, all who contribute to the **Endowment Fund** are eligible to receive a charitable tax deduction.

### **How can I make a gift to the Endowment Fund?**

Gifts may be made in two ways: An outright gift at any time or through a provision for a bequest to the church in your will. A will is a legal document that provides for the settlement of your affairs and the distribution of your assets. Your lifetime stewardship is not complete until your estate planning reflects your commitment to Christ's church. As Paul wrote: "They gave according to their means...But first they gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God."

### **How do I go about making a will?**

First consult an attorney to draft a will, or to revise your current will. A will is the only realistic way you can guarantee that the distribution of your property and capital, at your death, will be a last-

ing expression of your life. Without a will, the state will distribute your property for you, in ways which may violate your wishes. Will-making is an opportunity to share your physical resources in response to the spiritual riches you have received. Make your will now, while you can carefully consider your obligations to family, friends and the church. Executing a will is neither difficult nor expensive. In fact, the legal fee may be one of the best investments you make.

### **What do I accomplish by making a will?**

By executing your will, you accomplish a number of things you would not have been able to do without a will. You make provision for your own executor to represent you after death. You name a guardian for your children if necessary. You can consider possible obligations and favors for others. You may create a trust and chose a bank or trustees to manage your estate. You get to consider the final arrangements for your personal affairs, consider your church, your church related institutions and ministries, and provide for any charitable gifts you desire to make. You also gain a greater peace of mind for having fulfilled your stewardship responsibilities.

### **What kinds of gifts are possible for the Endowment Fund?**

Gifts such as cash, real estate and securities, life insurance, charitable gift annuities, trusts, and bequests are appropriate for the **Endowment Fund**. Your attorney can provide advice on which plan is best suited to your personal needs.