**Saginaw United Methodist Church**

**Permanent Endowment Fund**

**Why have an endowment fund?**

Endowment funds can:

* Enhance ministry/outreach
* Help care for facilities
* Encourage everyone to be better stewards
* Help our church avoid conflicts over money
* Provide a vehicle for giving

**Why is my gift to the Endowment Fund important?**

Your gift of whatever size enhances the ministry of your church and provides funds that supplement the finances available to the church. These funds are in addition to those received for the general operating budget. Your gift may provide ministries or programs that otherwise would be not possible. It may be used for building maintenance or capital improvements.

**Who administers the fund?**

The SUMC Permanent Endowment Fund Committee makes recommendations on how the fund’s earnings will be distributed and used. Our endowment fund is a permanent fund and only its earnings will be spent. When funds are available and distributed, they will support projects above and beyond normal budgeted items.

**Gifts to the SUMC Permanent Endowment Fund**

***You can decide what and how much to give, as well as when you want to give.***

**Why would I make a gift to the Endowment Fund?**

* Pay-it-forward for the future of those coming after us.
* Provide on-going support for SUMC’s ministries.
* Leave a legacy that will be remembered over time.
* Make a permanent gift from lifetime assets.

**Can I make a gift in honor of someone else?**

Yes, specially gifts to the Endowment Fund are a great way to show others how much you care about them and your congregation. These include:

* ***Memorial gifts*** in remembrance of a family member or a church member
* ***Tribute gifts*** recognizing special occasions such as anniversaries, achievements, retirements and promotions.

**Is my gift too small?**

No. All gifts are combined in the fund; therefore, they have a cumulative effect making even the smallest gift significant. Every gift contributes to the overall growth of the principal amount, which compounds the return on investments.

**What kind of gifts can be made to our endowment fund?**

There are many types of gifts that could benefit our permanent endowment fund. A few of them are:

* Cash
* Real estate
* Personal property
* Stocks and bonds
* Life insurance
* Planned Gifts

**What is a planned gift?**

A planned gift to the church is a financial gift structured to serve the needs of the church as well as the giver, such as:

* ***Charitable gift annuities***, which provide payments for life, tax benefits and ultimately benefit our permanent endowment fund.
* Gifts through ***wills***, also known as ***bequests***.
* ***Charitable remainder*** and ***charitable lead trusts*** to support our permanent endowment fund.

**Are permanent endowment fund gifts tax deductible?**

Yes. Your gifts to the Saginaw United Methodist Church Permanent Endowment Fund are deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes. Bequests, life income gifts and other donations of value are generally exempt from Federal Estate and Gift taxes.

**How do I make a gift to the Endowment Fund?**

You can label any monetary gifts as “Endowment Fund” and in memory of a loved one, in honor of a loved one, or in recognition of a special person, accomplishment, or event.

If you are considering a gift of real estate, personal property, or stocks/bonds, *please contact the church office* so that you can be put in contact with an appropriate person so your gift can remain confidential, if you wish.

**Planned Gifts for Future Ministries**

Most importantly, a planned gift is any gift, large or small, given with forethought. A planned gift to SUMC is a financial gift structured to serve the future needs of the church as well as the giver. It may take the form of an outright gift during your lifetime, a bequest through your will or other estate plan, a trust, or a life income gift.

These gifts usually come from accumulated assets such as personal property, real estate, stocks, bonds, life insurance policies, cash, or other assets of tangible value. Often these gifts can be structured to take advantage of allowable income and estate tax incentives.

Secondly, your generosity provides a feeling of satisfaction in knowing you have included SUMC in your personal financial plan. You can give back to God a portion of the gifts that have blessed your life. The gift planning process is both an act of stewardship and a step of faith in our spiritual journey as we continue to reflect Christ’s love and to trust in the abundance of God’s grace.

Types of Planned Gifts

* Cash
* Appreciated Securities
* Personal Property
* Appreciated Real Estate
* Life Insurance

*The information provided on this website is of a general and informative nature, and does not constitute advice, legal or otherwise. Through careful estate planning, you can attain your objectives for providing for loved ones as well as for United Methodist missions and ministries. Please consult your attorney or financial advisor for estate planning advice before you take any action.*

**THE SUMC PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE CAN HELP YOU WITH GIFTS TO THE SUMC PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ANY OF THE MEMBERS OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

MEMBERS OF THE 2022 COMMITTEE ARE:

Don King, Sheri Rann, Diane Weaver, Dale Pontius, Ken Sipll, Gary Schiffner, Tim Kret, Paula Wood, David Ranney