

Honor the Past

We are all grateful to those ancestors who possessed a bold vision and the courage to pursue it. We celebrate liberties we did not win. We utilize technologies we did not create. We rejoice in a faith we did not establish.

As beneficiaries of such treasures, we also share a duty to those who will succeed us to be ...

A Promise for the Future

The choices we make today will influence and shape the lives of persons whom we likely will never meet. God calls each of us to partner in faith with those who have preceded us in life; to share with those who will follow; and to do all in our power to ...

Sustain the Legacy

Our challenge is to recognize those opportunities which inspire us to achieve our full potential; to act in ways that establish a legacy that will endure well beyond this life; and to celebrate and share our good fortune for years to come.

The Endowment Program may be just that opportunity. Please take a few moments to explore its purpose, its possibilities, and its promise to enable you to share in the vital task of sustaining the mission and ministry of St. Matthew's UMC for generations to come.

Where can I get additional information on the Endowment Program ...

All of the documents associated with the Endowment Program are available online at www.stmatthewsumc.org or from any member of the Endowment Committee.

Committee members are also available to respond to your questions about any aspect of the Endowment Program or to discuss the many options available to support the Endowment Program at St. Matthew's UMC.

Endowment Program Committee ...

[Herb Hopwood](#), Chairmain 703-938-2040
Rudy Ehrenberg
Elaine Steele
Brad Oswalt
John Crabbe
Mike Plasters, Senior Pastor

Thank you for considering a legacy gift to support the continuing mission and ministry of St. Matthew's UMC.



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St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

The Endowment Program

May all who follow find us faithful



***"For where your treasure is,
there your heart shall be also".***

Matthew 6:21

St. Matthews United Methodist Church
8617 Little River Turnpike
Annandale, VA 22003
703-978-3500

What is The Endowment Program ...

St. Matthew's Endowment Program was chartered in 2002 and updated in 2011 to give members and friends the opportunity to make charitable gifts that will become a *permanent* resource to strengthen, expand, and preserve the ministries of the Church and provide an enduring memorial to the donor or their designee.

What type of gifts can be made ...

Gifts to the Endowment Program can be *current* (e.g., cash, securities, real or personal property), *deferred* (e.g., life insurance proceeds or bequests from a will), or *transitional* (e.g., revocable living trust or charitable remainder trust) that provide continuing lifetime benefits to the donor.

How will my gift be used ...

Gifts are normally used for purposes that are not included in the annual operating budget of the Church. The Endowment Program includes two types of funds.

“Designated” or “undesignated” gifts in any amount can be made to the “**General Endowment Fund**” to support missions, education and training scholarships, or expansion of our facilities.

“Designated” gifts with a current value of at least \$5,000 can be used to establish a “**Named Permanent Endowment Fund**” to be used for any purpose identified in a memorandum of understanding between the donor and St. Matthew's UMC.

Who administers the Program ...

The program is administered by the **SMUMC Permanent Endowment and Planned Giving Committee** which is responsible to accept, reject or condition gifts to the program and for investing and distributing assets from funds established under the program. On an annual basis, the Committee will publish a statement of assets including income to and distributions from any endowment fund.

How will Program assets be invested ...

A comprehensive “*investment policy guideline*” describes the investment philosophy and management procedures utilized by the Endowment Committee. A broad diversification of investments will be used including equities (i.e., stocks), fixed income (i.e., bonds), and cash equivalents (i.e., CD's or money market funds).

How will distributions be made ...

Distributions from the Endowment Program are made emphasizing long-term conservation of principal and the growth of net assets and income. Each year the Committee will establish and the Church Council will approve an “*annual withdrawal rate*” to support the goals of the program and to provide for its long-term viability. Withdrawals from the program are limited to four percent (4%) of its total assets in any year. This rate can be adjusted downward to reflect changes in the rate of inflation and actual investment performance.

What are tax consequences of my gift ...

Federal and state tax laws are an important consideration in determining how and when to make a charitable gift. Significant tax savings may be realized from contributions to the Endowment Program. ***It is important first to discuss the tax consequences of any planned gift with a professional tax advisor.***

How does endowment giving differ from annual stewardship giving ...

As a grateful response for the many blessings that God has bestowed on us, Christians are called to share with joy and generosity. Pledges to our yearly stewardship campaign sustain the *current* ministry, mission, facility and administrative priorities of St. Matthews. Without your generous gifts, our Church could not fulfill today's spiritual and physical needs of our congregation or community. The Endowment Program seeks to make our Church stronger and more responsive to the needs of *future* generations by establishing *permanent and living memorials* that perpetuate the mission and ministry of St. Matthews over the long term.

How do I make a gift to the program ...

The best gift is one that is consistent with your particular interests and circumstances. Gifts of all sizes and types are important and valued. Please contact a member of the Endowment Committee to review all of the options available to support this program.