

Gifts and Memorials

What shall I render to the Lord for all his bounty to me? (Psalm 116:12)

Many people are unsure how to make monetary gifts to First Presbyterian Church beyond their annual pledge towards the Stewardship Campaign. Please know that gifts can be made at any time. They can be made directly to the church along with your regular pledge, where they will be used for the general operations of the church. They can also be made specifically to Gifts & Memorials. Below is a list of the various Gifts and Memorials funds that can receive monetary gifts.

Funds described as “*On-Going*” were created to exist in perpetuity. They are maintained separately from other church accounts so each fund’s monies can be invested for the long term with specific limits placed on its annual disbursements, allowing these funds to impact the life of the church well into the future. In contrast, Funds described as “*Holding*” are tracked separately from the church’s operating cash, so it is easy to identify amounts available for current initiatives.

The *Memorial and Bequest Funds* can best be described as “holding” funds for gifts made in memorial, or conveyed by wills or trusts. These funds are used to purchase items or cover the cost of a program the church may not otherwise be able to afford. The Gifts and Memorials Committee honors specific requests for the use of the funds made by the deceased or family, in keeping with the overall ministry focus of the church. If no specific designation of funds is made by the deceased or family members, every effort is made by the committee to use the funds in a manner that reflects the particular gifts and ministry of the deceased. The Gifts & Memorials Committee also reviews requests from a sponsoring Ministry Team for a distribution from these funds, and secures Session approval for requests costing \$2,000 or more.

The *First Presbyterian Church Capital Improvements Endowment Fund* is an “on-going” fund from which 5% of its June 30th market value is transferred annually to the First Presbyterian Church Property Fund. You can make a gift directly to this endowment fund, and know that it will be used to help improve the church’s physical amenities in ways beneficial to the congregation.

The *First Presbyterian Church Property Fund* can best be described as a “holding” fund. Money transferred from the Capital Improvements Fund plus gifts made directly to this fund are held until used for an approved improvement, costing \$2,000 or more, to the land or church building. Property Fund moneys cannot be used for operating expenses. The Gifts & Memorials Committee reviews requests for expenditures from this fund, before making a recommendation to Session for final approval.

The *First Presbyterian Church Campus Ministry Endowment Fund* is an “on-going” fund from which 5% of its June 30th market value is transferred annually to benefit the Campus Ministry Program. You can make a gift directly to this endowment fund, and know that it will be used to support current and future Campus Ministry/UKIRK programs.

The *Earl and Ruth Kroth Scholarship Fund* is an “on-going” fund from which up to 5% of its June 30th market value can be disbursed during the following calendar year for scholarships to graduating high school students for their postsecondary education. The Gifts & Memorials Committee reviews requests from the Youth Ministry Team confirming that the students have attended Sunday School and youth meetings plus completed a service project for the community to qualify for the scholarship. You can make a gift directly to this fund to help defray the cost of postsecondary education for our youth.

The *Education Endowment Fund* is an “on-going” fund from which up to 5% of its June 30th market value can be disbursed each year in \$500 increments for programs and activities that foster spiritual growth and development. Before seeking Session approval, the Gifts & Memorials Committee reviews requests from a sponsoring Ministry Team confirming each initiative is in keeping with the ideals and interests of former members Imogene McFate and Robert Parks, whose bequests seeded this endowment. You can make a gift directly to this endowment to enhance the funds available each year.

By making a memorial gift to honor an individual or by making plans to leave a bequest, you benefit our church. Your gifts, no matter their amount or frequency, are greatly appreciated. If you have questions, please contact Janet Brandt, Chair of the Gifts and Memorials Committee (a subcommittee of the Finance Ministry Team), or Fran Muench, Financial Coordinator for First Presbyterian Church.