

What is the Mission Endowment Fund?

Our Saviour's established the Mission Endowment Fund in January 1994 to enhance the mission outreach of our church. The Fund receives gifts and bequests that will enable Our Saviour's to support mission programs beyond what is possible through the annual operating budget of the congregation. The Fund is separate and distinct from the annual operating budget.

How will the Fund be used?

Income from the General Purpose Mission Endowment Fund will provide support for outreach programs: locally, in the Chicago metropolitan area and to missions throughout the world. Income from funds may also be used to underwrite Our Saviour's Capital improvements or debt reduction.

If a donor designates their gift for a specific purpose, then income from those funds will be used for that purpose only.

How is the Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) different from the Memorial & Special Gifts Fund (M&SGF)?

Gifts to the M&SGF are used in their entirety for the purpose they are designated for. (see the green M&SG brochure)

Gifts to the MEF are "gifts that keep on giving!" These gifts are added to the principal of the MEF. Annually, we distribute the income generated by the earned interest to fund ministry projects.

What types of Gifts can be made to the Fund?

The Mission Endowment Fund can receive many forms of gifts and bequests. A few of the most common are:

- Trust or Will Bequest
- Securities – gifts of appreciated stocks or bonds often provide significant tax advantages for the donor
- Life Insurance – naming Our Saviour's as a beneficiary
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Real Estate
- Cash – on a one time or periodic basis

What language do I use to make a bequest to Our Saviour's in my will, trust, insurance or annuity?

"I give, devise and bequeath (here insert amount, percentage or property description) to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1234 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois, to be added to the Mission Endowment Fund of the congregation."

Please take this sample form of a bequest to your professional counsel for inclusion in your estate plans. He or she can adapt it for use in your will or trust.

Can I designate how my gift is to be used?

Yes. Donors may determine how the earnings on their gifts may be distributed by indicating which ministry or ministries they wish to support. Contributors are urged to discuss their wishes with a pastor or member of the endowment committee prior to making a final decision.

Unrestricted (undesignated) bequests and gifts will be administered in accordance with guidelines established by the congregation.

What are the currently established designated funds in the Our Saviour's Mission Endowment Fund?

Currently, our MEF has ten separate designations:

General Purpose Endowment Fund

George & Virginia Aigner Youth Wilderness Trip Fund

Organ Maintenance & Concert Fund

Building & Maintenance Fund

Furniture & Equipment Fund

Outreach Fund

Internet Enhancement Fund

Robert Lundstedt Music Fund

Youth Ministry Fund

Senior Adult Ministry Fund

These ten funds have received contributions of \$119,338 and have generated a return of \$51,711 (approximately \$6,000 per year) to further Our Saviour's mission!

What is the Our Saviour's Heritage Society?

In the spring of 2004, the Church Council established the Society as a way of encouraging the members of Our Saviour's to remember the church in their will or estate plan.

Members of the Society have indicated to the church that they have made provisions for leaving a portion of their estate to Our Saviour's.

Membership in the Society is open to all without regard to the size of the bequest. Members may remain anonymous if they prefer.

Society members will be provided with annual reports explaining how gifts are being used for the work of the church. Occasional gatherings of the Society will be held in order to develop and carry out plans for encouraging others to make bequests and for Society members to learn more about how gifts are being used to fulfill the mission of Our Saviour's.

For more information on the Mission Endowment Fund, the Heritage Society, or for procedures on how to make a gift or bequest to Our Saviour's, please contact a pastor or Jim Valentine.

Questions & Answers regarding the

Mission Endowment Fund

Fall, 2004

The Mission Endowment Fund enables the people of Our Saviour's to continue our ministry now and even beyond their lifetime.

As God opens doors for serving others and making Christ known, our church will need resources to support these opportunities. The Mission Endowment Fund provides support for our mission and a way to respond to God's love for us all.