Can I designate how my gift is to be used?

Yes. Donors may choose to give their gift (regardless of the amount) to one of our established Funds (see below) by indicating their wishes on their intent form. We urge all donors to discuss their wishes and the needs of the church with a pastor or member of the Endowment Committee prior to making a final decision.

All unrestricted (undesignated) bequests and gifts are automatically given to the General Purpose Fund, which is our major fund and benefits all areas of our mission.

Current Ministry Area Designated Funds:
- Outreach Fund
- Spiritual Growth Fund
- Operations Fund
- Worship Fund
- Building Community Fund

Donors wishing to establish a new designated fund, or to name a fund within one of the already established categories, must make an initial gift of a minimum of $5000.

Significant Gifts to the Mission Endowment:
Gifts of $5000 or more have been given by or in honor of:
George & Virginia Aigner  Charles & Norma Doering  Bob Lundstedt
Charles Bengsten  Bob & Edna Furreboe  Phil Nelson
Don Boeing  Doris Grunlee  Gene Wagner
Gladys Dicke  Burt Kingsley  Bill & Shelia Zerwer

As of September 30, 2017, the total assets in our Endowment Funds are approximately $700,000. Over 57% of the income earned has been allocated toward the Ministries & Mission of Our Saviour’s; 43% has been reinvested in the Fund to further its growth.

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.
**Q.** What is the Mission Endowment Fund?

**A.** Our Saviour’s established the **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND** in January 1994 to enhance the mission and ministries of our church. The Fund receives gifts and bequests that will enable Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church to support mission programs beyond what is possible through the annual operating budget of the congregation. The **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND** is separate and distinct from the annual operating fund.

**Q.** How is the Mission Endowment Fund different from the Memorial & Special Gifts Fund and the Annual Operating Fund?

**A.** Gifts to the Memorial & Special Gifts Fund are used in their entirety for their designated purpose. (See the Memorial & Special Gifts brochure.) The Annual Operating Fund of the congregation receives weekly offerings and gifts to support the ongoing ministries of the church. These offerings and gifts are used in their entirety, too. Gifts to the **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND** are “gifts that keep on giving!” These gifts are added to the principal of the **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND**, which is invested in conservative stocks & bonds. Annually, we allocate just the income generated by the investments to fund ministry projects.

**Q.** What are the dollar amounts that have been distributed?

**A.** Over $247,000 has been allocated back to the church’s mission and ministry since the inception of the **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND**.

Here are some of the fantastic things Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church has been able to accomplish in the past 24 years because of the **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND**:

- $40,000 for **OUTREACH**, including special gifts to Seminaries, Camps, Mission trips, and several Social Agencies
- $32,000 for **WORSHIP**, including organ concerts and repairs, music, and hymnals
- $25,000 for **SPIRITUAL GROWTH**, including leadership seminars, youth scholarships for national youth gatherings, wilderness and mission trips
- $11,000 for **BUILDING COMMUNITY**, including Stephen Ministry training and Adult programs
- $91,000 for **OPERATIONS**, including debt reduction, landscaping, building repairs and improvements, Internet expenses, computers and other equipment

**Q.** How will the income be used?

**A.** Income from the General Purpose **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND** can be used for many purposes. The two main purposes are: outreach programs—locally, in the Chicago metropolitan area, and to missions throughout the world; and to underwrite Our Saviour’s capital improvements or debt reduction. If a donor designates a gift for a specific purpose, then income from those funds will be used for that purpose only.

**Q.** What types of Gifts can be made to the Fund?

**A.** 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)
- Bank or investment accounts (with a “payable upon death designation” naming the Mission Endowment Fund)
- Life Insurance (naming Our Saviour’s as a beneficiary)
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Real Estate
- Cash

(In addition to bequests and other legacy gifts, we also welcome—and encourage—lifetime gifts of any size. Numerous gifts of $25 to $500 have been received over the life of the Fund.)