

The people of Divinity Lutheran have always had a special vision for serving the community and the world. God has blessed us as a congregation with a resource of talents, gifts, dedication and caring. For this we are truly thankful.

We take seriously our stewardship responsibility and the use of these and other gifts both for the present and for future generations.

The Divinity Lutheran Endowment Committee is a congregational committee established in 1986.

Its purposes are:

- to receive gifts of cash, securities, estates, life insurance, real estate, etc.
- to use income generated through investments while trying to maintain principal
- to support mission and ministry within the congregation, the community and throughout the world

Thus, the fund enhances the ministries of Divinity Lutheran Church.

### **Endowment Committee**

Ken Spanagel  
John Brunecz  
Allan Goellner  
Linda Gattiker

### **Why Have an Endowment Fund?**

The Endowment Fund provides a unique, lasting stewardship vehicle for people to express special gratitude to God for the blessings they have received through their church.

Its uniqueness is that all the principal is held permanently, and only the income is available for use each year. Consequently, the benefits from such gifts will be perpetual.

### **Who Manages the Fund?**

A committee of four members and the pastor manages the activities of the Fund. The four members are elected by the congregation. The committee meets quarterly to formulate policy, manage assets, and distribute income.

## **For What Will the Income from the Fund be Used?**

Income or profit from the Fund will be used to extend the life and mission of the Church. The Fund will not be used for any purpose normally covered by the congregation's regular operating budget unless authority is granted by a meeting of the congregation.

## **How May I Make a Gift?**

Your gift may be payable to Endowment Fund, Divinity Lutheran Church, 11877 Blossom Avenue, Parma Heights, Ohio 44130.

## **What Ways May I Give?**

You may choose to give cash, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate or life insurance policies. The committee will be happy to advise you on how to proceed when making these kinds of gifts.

## **Can Income Tax, Estate and Retirement Planning be Utilized?**

**Wills** - The most common form is through bequests in wills. This permits you to make a gift to the Fund upon your death, but determine at present the nature and extent of the gift. **Trusts** - There are many types of trust arrangements. Some trusts provide lifetime income to you and thereafter benefit the church in your name. A trust could also include a gift similar to a bequest in a will. Some provide tax savings. **Life Insurance** - Name the Fund as owner or beneficiary of some or all of the proceeds of your policy. **Gift Annuity** - Transfer asset to The Fund and receive income payments during your lifetime.

## **An Invitation**

You are invited to join in helping to provide funds to extend the benevolent mission of Divinity Lutheran Church. Gifts of any amount are welcome.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will include a bequest in my will for the Divinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.

\_\_\_\_\_ At present my will provides for a bequest to the Divinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to contribute to the Endowment Fund and am enclosing my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to Divinity Lutheran Church Endowment

Fund.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to confer with a committee member about making a lasting gift to the Divinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, or to include a gift in my will or trust, or wish more information about the fund.

Please return to:

Divinity Lutheran Church  
Endowment Fund  
11877 Blossom Avenue  
Parma Heights, Oh 44130

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sample Wording for your Will or Codicil (addition to will):**

“I give, devise and bequeath to Divinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, currently at 11877 Blossom Avenue, Parma Heights, Oh., 44130 and its successors in interest

- ↪ The sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars to be used according to the purposes of the of the Divinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.
- ↪ \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the residue of my estate and the property owned by me at the time of my death, to be used according to the purposes of the Divinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.
- ↪ \_\_\_\_\_ (specific items such as a specific life insurance policy, certain shares of stock or other specific items.)”

**Consider a Statement of Faith**

**as a preamble to your will:**

“In thanksgiving to God for the gift of life and His blessings which have sustained me through my life, and in grateful appreciation for the gift of God’s Son, Jesus Christ, who has forgiven my sins, I make confession of faith for all who read this last will and testament. All that I have received has come from my Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, and in Christ’s name, I take my leave, always resting in the loving arms of God.”

*(Then follows the rest of the will.)*

Divinity Lutheran Church  
Endowment Fund  
11877 Blossom Avenue  
Parma Heights, Oh 44130

LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
ENDOWMENT FUND

*Just a little shared  
from your life*

*can grow into  
many great things  
for others!*