A $100,000 permanent endowment fund placed with the Foundation in 1980 would have paid out over $469,302 to mission and have a principal value of $229,685 at the end of 2018. The average annual investment return was 7.60 percent.

Trusted for more than 200 years, the Presbyterian Foundation's permanent endowment funds have stood the test of time. Through wars, recessions and depressions, market rallies and crashes, the endowment funds continue to do what they were created for — provide funds for mission.
The Presbyterian Foundation’s endowment funds have stood the test of time. Through wars, recessions and depressions, market rallies and crashes, endowment funds continue to do what they were created for — to provide funds for mission in perpetuity.

A WORD TO DONORS: PRESERVE YOUR PASSION FOR MISSION

An endowment fund can be established in your own name, as a legacy in memory of a loved one, or in the name of the mission you choose to support. It can be funded using a variety of assets, such as cash, stocks, mutual fund shares, real estate or other property. Additional gifts to the fund can be accepted at any time from you or those wishing to support your chosen mission or ministry — allowing family and friends to contribute as well.

Endowment fund gifts may also provide tax benefits. By using appreciated assets to establish a fund, you avoid the capital gains tax you would incur if you sold those assets. You also reduce the size of your taxable estate. If you itemize allowable income tax deductions, you will be entitled to claim a charitable contribution as permitted by IRS regulations.

The Presbyterian Foundation seeks the highest possible current distribution to the charitable beneficiary while providing for sufficient growth of principal to ensure that payments from the endowment fund are as meaningful in the future as they are today.
OUR PHILOSOPHY

FIDUCIARY OVERSIGHT: The Foundation is responsible for balancing the current and future needs of beneficiaries as we structure portfolios, establish risk profiles, and adjust the spending formula.

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING: We invest in accordance with the PC(USA)’s established social witness policies.

PERPETUITY PERSPECTIVE: Our long-term investment horizon requires us to create income in perpetuity. Thus, we favor investment strategies that create long-term, sustainable value.

COMBINATION OF ACTIVE AND PASSIVE MANAGEMENT: Vigorous oversight, attention to costs, and a long-term perspective are essential to achieving success.

RISK AND VOLATILITY: A broadly diversified portfolio represents an appropriate strategy to mitigate risk and volatility with the potential to enhance long-term performance.

IMPLEMENTATION: The Foundation utilizes an outsourced chief investment officer model. Given the complexity, breadth and depth of Foundation activities, we have determined that this structure achieves our objectives in the most cost-effective manner.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT: The Foundation establishes investment goals and performance measures and analyzes them regularly. We acknowledge that short-term changes are the enemy of long-term consistent value creation.

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The performance data shown is past performance. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate and current market performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted.
CREATE A VISION FOR NOW AND THE FUTURE

PRESBYTERIAN ENDOWMENTS IN BRIEF

• 1799: Foundation incorporated as “Trustee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.”

• 1821: First endowment created by Elias Boudinot; it still provides funds today.

• Fiduciary corporation: Ensures donor designations are upheld, funds properly invested, and beneficiaries receive a dependable stream of income for perpetuity.

• Purpose: To help raise, manage and distribute money for PC(USA) congregations and programs.

• Investment and administrative responsibilities rest solely with the Foundation.

• Manages over 7,000 permanent endowment funds and over 3,500 charitable gift vehicles, totaling $1.1 billion.

• Foundation distributes approximately $60 million annually for mission and ministry.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS MAY BE JUST RIGHT FOR YOUR MINISTRY

To discuss the benefits of an endowment fund for your ministry, contact your Ministry Relations Officer or visit presbyterianfoundation.org.

BOUDINOT BOOK FUND

Elias Boudinot was the first president of what would become the Presbyterian Foundation. He was an early American patriot, financier and philanthropist. Boudinot was elected president of the Continental Congress and later appointed a director of the First Bank of the United States, and director of the United States Mint by George Washington.

At his death, he left two houses in Philadelphia to the Church with instructions that the income from them be used to purchase books for “weak and feeble” congregations.

This became the Foundation’s first permanent endowment: the “Elias Boudinot Minister’s Libraries Fund” which still provides funds today to purchase books for use by pastors in their congregations’ libraries.