



# ENDOW YOUR PLEDGE

MAKE YOUR PLEDGE LAST FOR ETERNITY





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Your gifts to our church have long sustained our congregation. All of us here are so grateful for the sacrificial contributions you have made that have helped us continue our mission of sharing Christ's love.

You may not realize it, but your gifts are among the largest contributions to our church. Your annual contributions have become essential to the ongoing work of our church, and we want to work with you to ensure that our work can continue long after the time when you are no longer able to make those gifts.

We're working with the Presbyterian Foundation on the long-term sustainability and financial health of our congregation. One aspect of this work is an effort called Endow Your Pledge, which will help build permanent gifts that will live on in perpetuity. We would like for you to prayerfully consider participating.

Endow Your Pledge is a concept that can bring peace of mind for the leaders of our congregation, and for you. Once achieved, you will know that you've made a lasting impact on the congregation that has meant so much to you during your lifetime, and that generations to come will be grateful for the legacy you left.





## GIFT SCENARIOS

Congregation members need to set up a fund with 20 times their annual pledge to ensure that their pledge will go on forever. We've provided the chart below to help you envision how much is needed.

ANNUAL PLEDGE	X 20	APPROXIMATE ENDOWMENT AMOUNT
\$ 5,000		
\$ 10,000		\$ 100,000
\$25,000		\$ 200,000
\$50,000		\$ 500,000
		\$1,000,000





## HOW TO ENDOW YOUR PLEDGE

There are many ways that you can help in the effort to secure our church's future. Some of the possibilities are outlined for you here.

The easiest and simplest way is to establish an endowment that provides an annual payout equal to your current pledge. You can set the terms and any restrictions on the endowment and determine how and when to fund it. Typically, a gift of approximately 20 times your current pledge would create such an endowment.

The most common means of establishing this gift is to leave it in your estate plans. The endowment would be established upon your death and begin paying out shortly thereafter.

You may also choose to establish this endowment now, or build up to an endowment over several years. Legislation within the past five years allows charity-minded donors to donate up to \$100,000 tax free from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) if you are 70.5 years of age or older.





## OPTIONS FOR GIFTS

Another option that appeals to many is leaving the proceeds from a life insurance policy to fund an endowment. A \$1 million life insurance policy, for example, would provide an annual payment of \$42,500 under the Presbyterian Foundation's current spending formula.

Gifts of appreciated securities may offer the benefits of reduced tax liability while furthering a charitable goal. Using appreciated securities that you have held for over one year to make a charitable gift may avoid the long-term capital gains tax and possibly allow you to deduct the full fair market value of the stock. To achieve this result, shares must be transferred to the charity, not sold, redeemed or exchanged. If they are sold from your account, the gift becomes a cash gift rather than a gift of securities and you will personally realize the capital gains.

There are other planned giving options that will achieve a similar outcome. The Presbyterian Foundation offers expertise in planned giving and will work with you and your pastor or other church staff throughout the process.

## AN EXAMPLE FROM A CHURCH

The Presbyterian Foundation works with numerous PC(USA) congregations for whom long-term viability is in question. It is not unusual that a smaller congregation is dependent upon the giving of a few members to fund its ministry. The impact of members' providing for continued giving is dramatic: in one situation in which the Foundation was involved, "Harriett," a lifelong Presbyterian living in the Carolinas, chose to amend her estate plan to provide for her church after her lifetime.

Following Harriett's death, the leaders of her congregation were concerned that they would be unable to afford the church's salaries and were preparing to eliminate a staff position. Foundation personnel had the happy duty of notifying the Session that Harriett's generosity, so apparent during her lifetime, would continue to benefit her beloved church, and that her annual pledge would be maintained in perpetuity.

## WHY THE FOUNDATION?

The Presbyterian Foundation has centuries of experience helping donors fund their churches and related ministries. We were established in 1799 and opened our first permanent endowment in 1821. It still provides funds for mission today! We currently steward more than 7,000 endowments for congregations across the country, and ministries around the world.

Our Ministry Relations Officers are experts in planned giving, church funding, and sustainability. They are available to walk with you throughout this process, and to help your pastor tend to your congregation's financial health and well-being.

Call us today at 800-858- 6127 or visit [presbyterianfoundation.org/mro](https://presbyterianfoundation.org/mro) to learn more.



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