

THE PERMANENT FUND AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

WHAT IS A PERMANENT FUND?

A permanent fund is a means whereby gifts can be given to the ministry of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that will touch lives now as well as into the future. Gifts to permanent funds are held in perpetuity with only the earnings being used for specific purposes.

At the present time, First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has a small Permanent Fund which was created in 2002. However, it is the desire of the Executive Board to make the Permanent Fund a more significant part of our ministry.

WHY HAVE A PERMANENT FUND?

A permanent fund is a way for members of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and other individuals to make a lasting legacy to the ministry of Jesus Christ and to the mission of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Gifts may be made to the Permanent Fund in a number of ways:

- wills
- bequests
- securities
- real estate properties
- personal property
- life insurance
- trusts, gift annuities
- memorial and honor gifts

These gifts help spread the message of Jesus Christ by meeting human needs within church ministry.

Let's look at an illustration. You dearly love the church and you've received deep satisfaction in your relationship with the church and your

fellow worshipers. You've worked hard and have given freely to your church in your lifetime. You would like to see your effort continue even after you are no longer able to do so. Your permanent fund contribution is a way to make sure that your past efforts continue.

God's Spirit gave life to First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) which exists to serve God's purposes in the community and the world. Planned gifts to the Permanent Fund provide resources for ministry into future generations. A planned gift to the Permanent Fund of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) allows a donor to make a significant faith statement at the present time, as well as in the future. Contributions to the Permanent Fund offer tax savings for you if you make the gift in your lifetime, or for your estate if you include the gift in your will. The Permanent Fund offers permanence, stability, and expertise in handling and group judgment in spending.

WHAT DOES THE PERMANENT FUND DO?

The Permanent Fund of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) provides current and future needs of God's Kingdom. The Permanent Fund will be overseen by five custodians who are church members and who are appointed by the Chairperson of the Board. The Church Treasurer is also an ex-officio member.

According to the present Permanent Fund policy, the annual distribution will be spent as follows:

1. 40% will be spent for the ministry of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) according to the recommendation of the Stewardship and Finance Committee with the confirmation of the church Board. However, support to the operational budget may never represent an amount greater than 15% of the total operational budget.
2. 30% will be designated for outreach causes and transferred to the Outreach Committees for expenditure. Equal percentages will be allocated to Disciples Outreach and Community Outreach. These funds will not be considered as part of the regular budget expenditure for outreach causes. The Outreach Committees will

report to
the church.

3. 20% will be added to the Building Fund.
4. 10% will be given to other programs and causes, such as direct donations to the regional office, according to the recommendation of the church Board.

HOW CAN I MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

There are many ways that you can create a lasting legacy to the ministry of Jesus Christ through First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). One of the simplest ways is to make arrangements through your will to leave a portion of your estate to the Permanent Fund of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This can be done by many options:

- Designate an outright dollar amount in your will.
- Designate a fixed percentage or portion as stated in your will.
- Willing all of your estate to the church, if you have no heirs.
- Give during your lifetime.

All individuals are encouraged to seek proper legal advice to ensure that their desires are correctly fulfilled.

YOU MAY HAVE MORE QUESTIONS

You may have more questions. If so, please feel free to call the church office at (217) 466-3255. You'll be contacted by someone from the church to respond to your question and/or concerns.