

FEATURES OF AN ENDOWMENT

- **Gift Size.** Minimum gift of \$25,000 to establish. Once established, additional gifts may be added with no size restrictions.
- **Personalized.** You designate the ministry that benefits from the endowment fund you establish.
- **If Invested** with ELS Foundation that means you have cost effective, professionally managed, investment services for your favorite ELS ministries, congregation and/or other affiliated organization.
- **Distributions** will be made annually to the ministry you determine for your endowment.
- **An Established Lasting Legacy.** Endowments provide financial resources for years to come.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- **Joy** knowing your gifts will benefit a ministry, enabling a gospel ministry that is close to you to continue, and by grace, to thrive.
- **Flexibility.** You can give an immediate cash gift or planned gift, such as through a will, trust, Donor Advised Fund, or beneficiary designation on a retirement account, or life insurance policy.

- **Encouragement to others.** Additional gifts may be added at any time. Gifts are easily added to an endowment by a family member, congregation, or individual
- **Predictable support.** The ELS ministry you designate for your endowment can plan to receive annual, regular distributions.
- **Easy.** ELS Foundation provides all the necessary administration and it frees up the local ministries from administration burdens associated with managing an endowment.

Your ELS Giving Counselor is available to you and is as near as your phone when you call 507-469-9656.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation exists to help manage gifts for the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, its agencies and other institutions related to it. Thus the work of the foundation is to assist God's people in support of God's ministry of the Word through the ELS.

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This information is not intended as legal advice. For legal and tax advice, we encourage you to consult an attorney or tax professional.

1-18-23

Giving through an Endowment Fund

Creating a legacy that lasts beyond a lifetime!



Making God's Plan Our Plan

***Giving through an endowment
can leave a legacy that lasts
well beyond a lifetime.***

OVERVIEW

By becoming involve with ELS Foundation and giving a contribution to an existing ELS endowment fund or by establishing your own, you are creating a legacy that will last beyond a lifetime in helping to carry the saving Gospel to others.

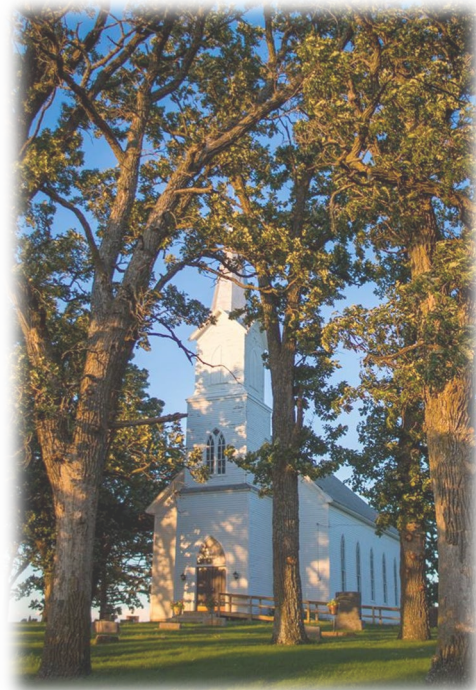
Giving is an act of worship, another way to offer your Lord a thankful response for his never-failing gift of grace in Christ.

WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT FUND?

An endowment is a donor restricted gift that is not spent immediately but invested in a diversified investment portfolio. Annual distributions from the endowment fund are used to provide a source of ongoing financial support for ELS ministries, including congregations and schools.

There's an endowment for you.

Several options allow individuals, families, churches, and organizations to provide ongoing support to ELS ministries. Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary have operational endowments as well as scholarships that work the same way.



ELS Endowments

You can also contribute to one of the endowments already established to support ministry. Here are examples:

Partners in the Gospel Fund

(Home Missions)

The purpose of this endowment is to further the work of the Gospel through

home missions and evangelism in the ELS. Only growth and income can be used. Yet it helps the Board for Home Outreach to explore and open new missions as well as help congregations in their outreach efforts.

Wilson-Olsen-Wilson Mission Fund (Foreign Missions)

The purpose of this endowment is to provide funding for the work of foreign missions. Only growth and income can be used. Yet it helps the Board for World Outreach to help support the work of missions around the world.

Truth for Our Youth Fund

The purpose of this endowment is to provide funding for youth programs. Only growth and income can be used. It helps fund youth outreach programs throughout the circuits of our synod.

A DONOR DESIGNATED ENDOWMENT

Through the ELS Foundation, an individual or family or entity can establish an endowment to provide ongoing, dependable support for the benefit of ministries that touch their hearts. In addition to supporting missions, the endowment can be designated toward the donor's congregation, elementary school, preschool or early childhood program as well as an area Lutheran High School.



Congregation/Organization Endowment/Agency Funds

A church or ELS organization can also establish an endowment to benefit local items like community outreach, scholarships, and building maintenance, as well as wider synod efforts like opening missions fields or training pastors and teachers. Your Christian giving counselor can assist with setting up the endowment and helping churches promote current and estate gifts to the fund.



HOW DOES AN ENDOWMENT WORK?

1. *Isabelle gives \$10,000 to home missions annually. She doesn't want there to be any negative impact to ministry upon her passing. So she then designates \$250,000 toward the ELS Partners in the Gospel Fund. If the fund distributes 4% of the three year rolling average this perpetuates her \$10,000 annual gift.*
2. *Isaac is a retired pastor. To support the benefit of Christian Education at all levels he establishes an endowment to provide regular income to Bethany Lutheran College as well as his local church school. He can then encourage his friends and family and co-workers to add to the fund and plans to designate a bequest from his estate to the fund also.*
3. *A businessman recognizing the blessings of having a local church and school decides to establish an endowment to fund the school. He also decides to set up a charitable trust by donating his business to a charitable trust and the trust is financed from the sale of his business avoiding capital gains taxes. The trust provides an income for life for him and his spouse but at the end of their lives the remainder flows into their endowment to support the school and church after their passing.*