

Tips on Making a Gift to Bethany UMC

This information is meant to help you develop your charitable gift and estate plans in consultation with your attorney, accountant and/or other advisors.

I. Bequests to the Permanent Endowment Fund

The following are the types of permanent Endowment Funds that Bethany UMC readily accepts. The capital of Endowment Funds will be preserved except in extreme and overwhelming circumstances bordering on the survival of the Church. (This wording is from the charter for Bethany's Permanent Endowment Fund. Please speak to a member of the Endowment Committee if you have any questions or want further information about this provision.) Otherwise, only the investment income will be spent. If you do not specify one of these funds, please contact the Endowment Committee before finalizing your bequest. The Endowment Committee may reject bequests that are not within our guidelines. Due to the difficulty in spending small amounts of investment income, bequests below \$10,000 must go into the General Undesignated Fund. The Endowment Committee may also reject bequests of property and non-publicly traded securities (see the Bethany Gift Acceptance Policy). The following are suggested categories within the Permanent Endowment Fund:

A. General Undesignated –

These funds may be used for any of the purposes listed below and/or for any other needs of the church, thus providing the most flexibility for Bethany's ministries.

B. Capital Expenditures –

This category may include, but is not limited to, such items as property improvements, unbudgeted property maintenance, purchase of technology.

C. Mission Projects-

This category may include, but is not limited to, such items as local, state, national and international projects that are supported by the church.

D. Children's Ministries-

This category may include, but is not limited to, such items as staffing, materials.

E. Worship and Music Ministries-

This category may include, but is not limited to, such items as instruments, music, expansion of media usage.

F. Senior Ministries –

This category may include, but is not limited to, such items as staffing, covering volunteer expenses, materials.

G. Youth Ministries-

This may include, but is not limited to, such items as staffing, mission trips, local mission expenses, materials.

H. Ministry to the Community

This category may include, but is not limited to, such items as staffing, expenses, materials.

I. New Ministry Initiatives

This category may include, but is not limited to, such items as staffing, expenses, materials, training costs.

II. Unrestricted Gifts to Bethany (not to the Permanent Endowment Fund)

Unrestricted Gifts may be used by Bethany for any purpose at any time. Both the capital and any investment income may be spent. You may still restrict the use of your bequest to the categories shown above for endowment bequests.

III. Recommended Language for your Trust or Will

Use a. and/or b. below to specify the type of gift and c. and/or d. and/or e. to specify the amount. If you want to give both an Unrestricted Gift and a Permanent Endowment Fund gift, be sure to specify the amount of each.

- a. I hereby give to the Permanent Endowment Fund of Bethany United Methodist Church located in Ellicott City, Maryland:
- b. I hereby give an Unrestricted Gift to Bethany United Methodist Church located in Ellicott City, Maryland:
- c. The sum of \$_____ (amount)
- d. The following described property_____ (description)
- e. ___%(percent) of the residue of my estate

to be used for _____ (one of the categories in section I above).

(If applicable) After 5 years of use for the specified category, I direct that my bequest be moved to the General Undesignated Fund. (This statement only applies to Permanent Endowment bequests. The Endowment Committee believes that Bethany's future leadership will have a better view of Bethany's ongoing needs than anyone can have today.)

IV. Gifts through Other Vehicles

If you make your gift through other vehicles, such as naming Bethany as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, IRA, or 401(k) plan, you might only be able to specify Bethany and not the specific targets covered in I and II above in the documents you use to name the beneficiary. In that case, you may send a letter to the Endowment Committee notifying it of the beneficiary designation and specifying the target(s).