

Endowment Development

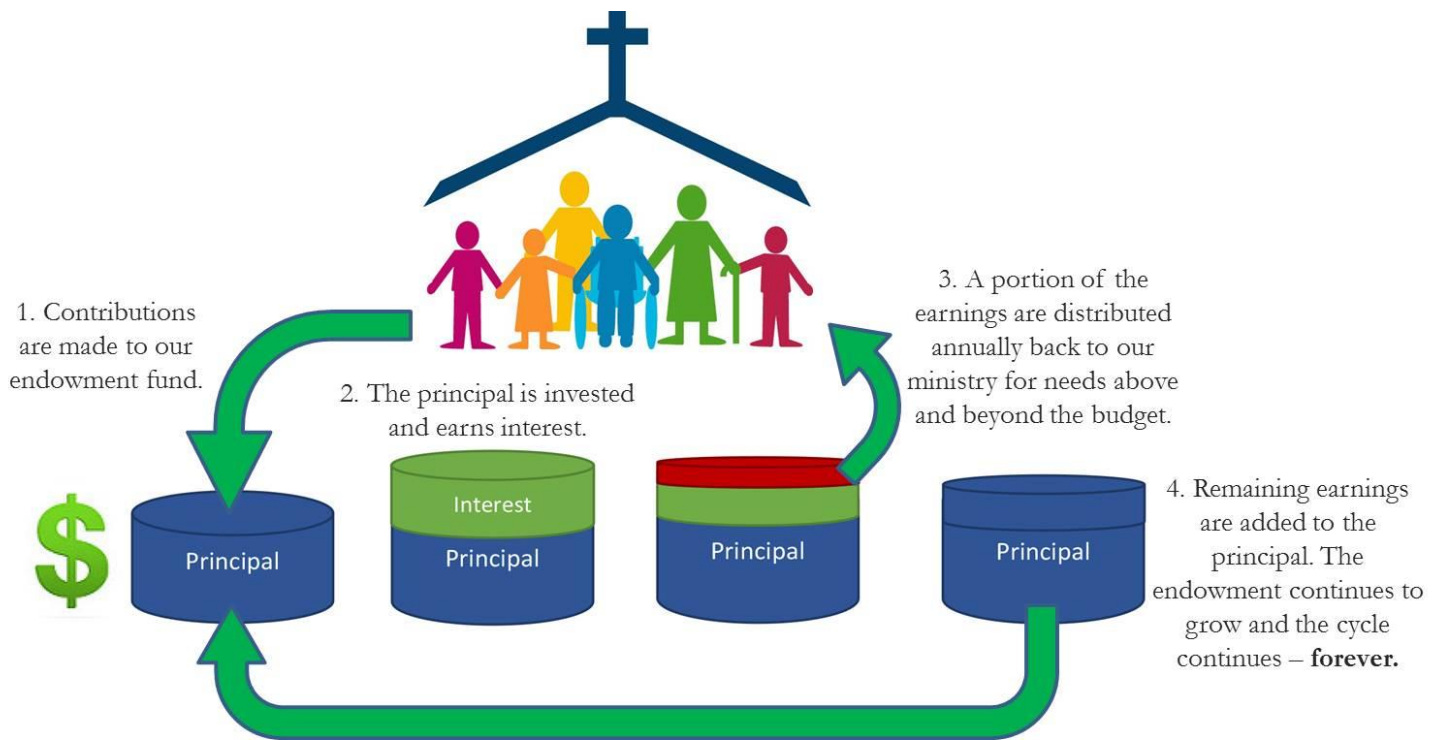
The gift that keeps giving for generations to come



Building the Church for generations to come

Is an endowment right for our church?

If your church is planning for a future, the answer is “Yes!” Every church that intends to thrive in ministry for years to come should have an endowment. An endowment tells your constituents you are responsibly planning for a visionary future and will be thoughtful with their planned gift. An endowment gives your donors the peace of mind that your ministry won’t spend in fifteen minutes a gift they may have worked a lifetime to build.



An endowment isn't as complicated as you might think.

Actual contributions to the endowment represent principal, which is preserved and grows over time. A portion of earnings can be returned to the ministry as a distribution each year, while a portion of earnings are reinvested to grow the corpus. Each year, the process begins again, the endowment grows, and a perpetual source of income is provided for ministry.

United Methodist Foundation of Western North Carolina, Inc.

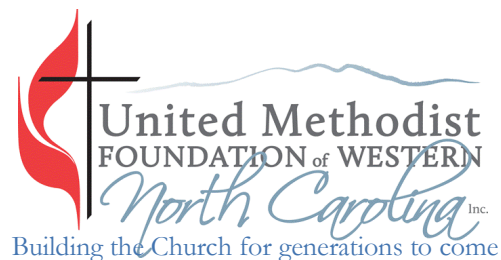
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Frequently-Asked Questions About Endowments



What kind of endowment should we establish?

If your ministry is just getting started with endowments, you may find that a General Endowment Fund serves your needs best. The annual distributions from a General Endowment Fund can be directed each year by your church leadership to the greatest ministry need at the time. It might be building improvements one year, seed money for a new initiative the next, missions the year after that, or some combination in a given year. A General Endowment Fund provides flexibility to support changing ministry needs, such as:



Capital Needs



Missions



Student Scholarships



Other Ministries

What is the first step in establishing a General Endowment Fund?

Contact us! We will guide you through the process of creating one or more endowments that adhere to the United Methodist Church's *Book of Discipline*. We have a sample endowment agreement ready to share with you, and it's our pleasure to assist you with the full endowment development.



How much money do we need to begin a General Endowment Fund?

You can begin an endowment with zero dollars. We assist many churches in establishing endowments before the first dollar is ever received. Once created, we are happy to assist you with developing a plan to grow the fund. Please see the information for a Five-Year Planned Giving Strategy.

Will funding the endowment negatively impact our annual giving?

Most donors actually have two pockets – their income pocket, and their asset pocket. Endowments are generally funded through Planned Gifts, which people make from their *assets*, while they generally make gifts to your operating budget from their *income*. Emphasizing an endowment demonstrates the church's commitment to use legacy gifts wisely, and thereby encourages people to make gifts that will outlive themselves.

Thank you for the opportunity to be in ministry with you!