

Quick Reference Guide

What is a Legacy Gift?

A **Legacy Gift** is a planned future donation to a charity, given through your will or other form of beneficiary designation. It can take any number of forms, which are described in greater detail in this pamphlet.

What are the Benefits of Legacy Giving to St. Mark's?

- Your gift shows your love for God and your neighbor.
- Your gift can truly change the world for the Kingdom of God.
- Your gift can continue to support missions and programs that have been important to you during your Christian life.
- Many studies show that charitable giving can contribute to greater happiness, improved life satisfaction, and less stress in your life.
- Charitable gifts can reduce your tax burden.

St. Mark's Giving Policy

There are many opportunities and ways to make Legacy Gifts to St. Mark's:

- **Designated gifts** go to the activity, organization, or fund designated by the giver (Ex: Revitalization, Dedicated Accounts, Endowment Funds, Montessori School).
- **Undesignated gifts less than \$10,000** are directed to the Mission Endowment Fund.
- **Undesignated gifts of \$10,000 or more** are directed as follows:
 - **Tithes and Offerings**
 - 10% - Synod and ELCA Missions
 - **St. Mark's Lutheran Church**
 - 30% - Endowment Funds (allocated $\frac{3}{4}$ Mission Fund, $\frac{1}{4}$ Youth Fund)
 - 30% - Debt Reduction and Capital Programs
 - 30% - Evangelical Outreach
- **St. Mark's Endowment Funds:**
 - Mission Fund
 - St. Michaels Youth Fund

Benevolences. St. Mark's generously supports important ministries such as Lutheran Social Services, World Hunger, ECHO, Caroline Furnace and Mar-Lu-Ridge, and Food for Others to name a few.

Your Gifts Can Make a Difference!

Mary Joe Carlson, Eugene Donald, Marguerite Draper, Ken Randall, and Rita Woods were all St. Mark's legacy givers. These deceased members left gifts in their wills or through other plans that totaled over **\$781,000**.

Did these gifts make a difference? YES!! Without question, these gifts made a difference. Collectively, these gifts touched on literally every St. Mark's ministry and outreach program. These gifts had an impact worldwide (World Hunger, Lutheran Social Services, Disaster Relief, Global Missions), in our local community (ECHO, Lynbrook School), and right here at St. Mark's (Revitalization, Music, Youth Ministry).

These gifts funded educational programs (Roanoke College, Gettysburg Seminary, Fund for Leaders). Gifts contributed to the work of our two Endowment Funds—Mission and Youth—which now stand at a combined value of almost **\$450,000**.

What is Important to You? Through thoughtful estate planning, you can leave your own legacy—a legacy that will make a difference in the lives of others through the Kingdom of God.

Establish Your Legacy!

<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Technique</u>	<u>Assets</u>
Will or Trust	Contribution to St. Mark's provided through your will or trust	Your will or trust, which can include assets of cash, stocks, bonds, mutual fund shares, real estate, and other property
Retirement Account	St. Mark's named as a beneficiary of your retirement account	401K, 403B, 457, IRA, TSP
Insurance	St. Mark's named as a beneficiary on your life insurance policy	Proceeds from your life insurance policy
Property	St. Mark's named as a beneficiary of an asset	Cash, stocks, bonds, mutual fund shares, real estate, other property
Charitable Giving Annuity	Income to you/spouse during lifetime; gift to St. Mark's upon your/your spouse's death	Cash, stocks, mutual fund shares

Contact Information

Who can I contact for additional information? Just email or call anyone listed below:

- **Cindy Hausch-Booth, Director**
Cell: 703-402-1489
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- **Ed Barnes** for a list of church needs suitable for legacy giving.
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We have all been blessed with worldly possessions that serve us in our lifetimes. These possessions have the ability to become gifts that will benefit loved ones as well as favorite ministries after our earthly days. With a bit of planning, our estate's ability to provide a valuable legacy can be greatly enhanced. Your estate can reflect your values. You can leave a legacy for ministry. Become a St. Mark's Legacy Society member today!

LEGACY GIVING OPPORTUNITIES at St. Mark's

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church
5800 Backlick Road
Springfield, Virginia 22150**

**"Founded in Faith...
Growing in Grace"**

Psalm 145:4

One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.