



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church...
a place for all to worship, serve, and belong.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is an Endowment Fund?

A: The unique characteristic of an endowment fund is the requirement that contributions to the fund cannot be spent (except under extraordinary and unusual circumstances), and only earnings – interest, dividends and capital gains – can be used for the purposes designated by the fund. As a result, endowed funds are intended to be **everlasting**. In the case of the St. Andrew's Endowment Fund, the uses of the earnings of the Fund are restricted to non-operating uses. Some examples of these uses are outreach ministries, and capital projects, to repair or up-grade the parish's building and other property.

Q: What are the likely sources of funds to the St. Andrew's Endowment Fund?

A: Parishioners and friends of the parish are the most likely donors. These donations can be made either when donors are alive or as a provision of wills and trusts.

Q: Is there a minimum amount to contribute to the St. Andrew's Endowment Fund?

A: No. All contributions are welcome and greatly appreciated.

Q: What protects the Endowment Fund from being used to support the operations of the parish?

A: The Plan of Operations governing the Endowment Fund prevents transfers of monies to the parish's operating account other than to support the approved purposes of the Fund.

Q: Will the investments of the Endowment Fund be professionally managed?

A: The Plan of Operation provides for the engagement of professional investment management of the Fund's assets. The funds for the St. Andrew's Endowment are managed by Trustees of the Funds.

Q: Who will administer the Endowment Fund?

A: The St. Andrew's Endowment Fund will be administered by a committee composed of 5 parishioners, appointed by the Vestry. Each committee member will be appointed for a term of up to 3 years. Each year the Vestry will appoint a new member to the committee, to replace a retiring member. Members of the committee may serve for up to 2 consecutive terms.

Q: If I'm interested in contributing to the Endowment Fund, what kind of assets can I contribute?

A: With no restrictions, cash and publicly-traded securities; with the agreement the Fund's Gift Review Committee, closely-held and not-readily-marketable securities, insurance policies, real estate, and tangible personal property.

Q: If I want to support a specific parish outreach ministry through an endowment how do I do this?

A: First, you must be prepared to gift \$20,000 or more to the Endowment Fund to support the ministry. Second, you must gain the agreement of the Vestry to accept the donor-designated gift to the Endowment Fund.

Q: What is the relationship between the Endowment Fund Committee and the Vestry?

A: The Committee members are appointed by the Vestry, and report to the Vestry. The Committee is obligated to report to the Vestry after each of its meeting, and to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting.

Q: What type of parish ministries will the Endowment Fund support?

A: Capital needs of the Church; Outreach ministries and grants; Education and worship ministries; Seed money for new ministries and special one-time projects; and such other purposes as specifically designated by donors to the Church whose gifts are included in the Endowment Fund.

Q: What types of investments will the Endowment Fund hold?

A: The majority of the investments will be in publicly-traded equities and bonds, either through direct ownership, or mutual funds, or exchange-traded funds. There is provision for the Fund to hold cash (or equivalents) and other kinds of investments, with restrictions.

Q: How does the Endowment Fund impact on-going giving and the Annual Stewardship Campaign?

A: There is no relationship between these two sources of giving. On-going giving supports the operation of the parish, while the earnings (and the corpus) of the Endowment Fund are generally prohibited from being used to support parish operations.