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**For
Whiteland
United
Methodist
Church
Founded
1991**

THE INTRODUCTION

The Whiteland United Methodist Church is committed to the encouragement of Christian Stewardship in all areas of Christian life. We are further committed to the best possible management of the resources which people share with the church. Therefore we recommend the following:

1. That every member of the Whiteland United Methodist Church gather information and seek the aid of professional council in preparing a legal will as soon as possible.
2. That every member and constituent of the Whiteland United Methodist Church consider committing a portion of his or her estate to the ongoing ministry of the Whiteland United Methodist Church.
 - a. We particularly welcome undesignated gifts. When undesignated gifts are received, we will manage those gifts in the manner described in Section III of this document.
 - b. We welcome to designated gifts to undergird the special ministries of your priority.
3. That when you consider making a designated gift to our church, remember, all such gifts must be accepted by the Board of Trustees who act in behalf of our Charge Conference and Council Board.
4. Conversations about facility needs, program needs and missions needs are welcomed. This conversation could help you to find greater fulfillment as you make your choices of ministries to strengthen.

THE ENDOWMENT FUND

The main purpose for the Whiteland United Methodist Church Endowment Fund is the enrichment of our ministry. One of the ministries is assurance. This fund will assure people that the gifts that they share, whether current or deferred, will be used in the exact manner as agreed upon at the time the gift is accepted.

The policies which govern the Endowment Fund will insure that the oversight, management, and distribution of funds will be done in a manner that is understood and consistent.

Designated gifts, given in perpetuity, may be co-mingled for purposes of investment. However, income from both designated and undesignated gifts will be used as agreed by contract or by policy until the designated purposes are no longer in existence.

When persons are considering gifts, current or deferred, it is urged that legal designations be used. Use the property name – Whiteland United Methodist Church – and Federal Tax Number for the proper tax credit and to insure your gift's arrival at your desired place. This designation is recommended for all gifts, including grants, life insurance designated gifts, undesignated gifts, donations, legacies, bequests and devises.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

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THE ENDOWMENT FUND (continued)

The principle of the Endowment Fund may not be used except in a declared emergency, upon action of the Charge Conference and follow-up action. The steps are as follows:

1. There is a threat of emergency nature for the continuation of the Whiteland United Methodist Church or of the continued existence of its buildings.
2. The Pastor, District Superintendent, and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees communicated to the church the full definition of the emergency.
3. The Church Conference meets after proper notice.
4. The vote to invade all or any portion of the principle must be by three-fourths (75% majority in order to uphold the emergency action.
5. Upon proper vote, certification must be made by the signature of the District Superintendent, Pastor and the Charge Conference Secretary.

THE DIVISION OF INCOME FROM UNDESIGNATED FUNDS

- A. One-half (50%) of the income from undesignated funds will go to the Property Fund. The use of this fund is restricted to capital improvement and additions to the land and buildings of the Whiteland United Methodist Church, or major and infrequent repairs. These funds will not be available for normal maintenance or upkeep items, which shall be anticipated, and provided for in the yearly budget of the church.
- B. One-half (50%) of the income from undesignated funds will be placed into the Service Fund. The use of this fund is for programs of service to others either within the church, with the local community or beyond the local community which are outside the scope and responsibility of the annual budget. This fund shall be used for purposes over and above the regular obligation of the congregation.
- C. In making a contribution to the Endowment Fund, the donor may specify that all or any part may be placed in either of the above funds.
- D. If a donor would like to designate some other special interest, they may do so. These funds will be commingled with the other funds for the purpose of investment, but the interest from this portion is to be used only for its named purpose.
- E. It is further understood that all gifts to the Endowment Fund must be accepted or rejected by the Board of Trustees of the Church.



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THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE INVESTMENT

- A. All income from the Endowment Fund shall be under the direction of the Charge Conference and the Council Board.
- B. A management committee known as the “Endowment Fund Administrative Committee” shall have the responsibility of the investment and management of the fund subject to the direction of the Charge Conference. This committee shall consist of one member from the Board of Trustees, the Chairperson of Program Planning, one member of the Stewardship and Finance Committee; the Minister, and three members-at-large, to be nominated by the Nominating Committee (2007-Lay Leadership Committee) and elected at the Charge Conference.
- C. This committee shall be responsible for insuring that the funds are properly dispersed. Also, accurate records are to be kept regarding a list of donors and the amount of principle and interest in each portion of the fund.
- D. The Endowment Fund Administrative Committee shall be responsible for:
 - a. The promotion of the Endowment Fund program in the Whiteland United Methodist Church
 - b. Providing printed materials for person who are members and constituents of our Church.
 - c. Providing personal counsel with regard to needs and opportunities of wills and bequests, life contracts and tax-wise gifts.
- E. The Charge Conference and the Council Board (2007-Administrative Board) shall be responsible for the following:
 - a. Setting policies, guidelines and priorities.
 - b. Upholding policies and contracts.
 - c. Overseeing the decisions for expenditure of income funds.
 - d. General oversight of the Whiteland United Methodist Church Endowment Fund.

REVIEW

- A. A review committee consisting of five persons shall be appointed by the Council Board (2007-Administrative Board).
- B. The function of the review committee is to review this policy. The first review is to be in two years and a second review two years later. Thereafter during each year of a Quadrennial Conference.
- C. The Chairperson of the review committee is to be elected at Charge Conference.
- D. The report of this committee’s findings shall be submitted to the Council Board (2007-Administrative Board) for recommendation to the Charge Conference.



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SOME UNDERLYING FAITH IDEAS

- Everything we have is a gift from God. The faith life is a giving life.
- We are to be good stewards of every gift from God.
- We work hard, using God-given talents to achieve and accumulate possessions that can be used in faith.
- We manage our gifts so that they will do the following:
 - Care for our children in either our presence or our absence.
 - Properly educate our children.
 - Provide for our good quality of life in both our productive life period and in our retirement years.
- We believe that giving a portion of our possessions and money is a vital part of the Christian faith, a model for a giving life.
- We believe all adults should have an Estate Plan.
- We believe that all persons should have a will to carry out their Estate Plan to its final intent and encourage each person to consult an attorney.
- We believe that persons who have given their support through tithing or regular gifts to the Church and to great causes can make a final witness to their faith by tithing their estate or giving a portion of the estate to the Church.
 - Local Church gifts are encouraged.
 - Gifts to our Annual Conference and General Church Ministries are encouraged.
- A will is our legal right to witness to the values by which we have lived.
- Our Church is worthy of your trust and support.

Living for a caring church

Whiteland United Methodist Church
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Whiteland, IN 46184
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