



CREATIVE “GIFT PLANNING”

MAKING GIFTS TO OUR “FORWARD IN FAITH” CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Many of us are experienced at giving or tithing (giving 10% of our income) to the mission and ministry of Zion Lutheran. Many of us may think about giving in terms of our checkbook or pocketbook. Many of our gifts for both the annual operations of the church and the capital campaign will come from our checkbooks or pocketbooks.

However, the fact is that often gifts for capital campaigns are contributed in additional ways. Let's think outside the conventional box and be creative in our giving. What opportunities are there for making gifts over the next three years?

Appreciated Assets as Gifts

How about contributing appreciated assets: property, stocks, mutual funds, or other investments? You may have appreciated property (a vacation cabin or lot, a duplex, a second home, or rental property) that you are afraid to sell because of the capital gains taxes. Have you ever considered contributing such property to our church? These can make excellent gifts to our capital campaign. Your benefits for giving appreciated assets:

- 1) receive joyful satisfaction about making a significant gift to the ministry of our church;
- 2) *Use a recognized planning tool to* avoid paying taxes on the gain you have built up over the years; and,
- 3) realize a charitable gift deduction for the full amount of your gift.

Gifts from an IRA

Those over the age of 70 ½ can make a tax free charitable contribution to the church from your IRA. The contribution must be made directly from your IRA to Zion and it may be applied to your Required Minimum Distribution.

Life Insurance Gifts

Perhaps you hold a life insurance policy with cash value that you no longer need. Gifting this policy to the church by naming Zion Lutheran Church as the beneficiary creates a valuable gift to the church as well as a charitable deduction for you as the donor.

Lifestyle Giving

Another way to generate gifts for our campaign is to consider lifestyle adjustments. Going camping with the family in place of a more expensive vacation, postponing the purchase of an automobile or remodeling of a home, are all ways to “find money” in order to make a generous gift. We are reminded that our forebears often took second mortgages on their homes in order to support their churches.

Shared Benefit Gifts - Endowment

There are also several ways in which the financial benefits of a gift can be shared between the donor and the church. These include charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, and life estate agreements. It is recommended that you contact your financial advisor if you are considering a gift of this nature.

Help with your Gift Planning

Zion has people who are willing to assist you with your gift planning. For assistance or more information, please contact Dick and Margaret Geffrey (Ph: 253-631-5917 Email: mgeffrey@comcast.net).