

CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE LEGACY 2035
ENDOWMENT FUND AT
CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN



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At Christ Presbyterian Church, we are committed to breaking down barriers, nurturing a diverse and welcoming environment, and serving our congregation and the wider community with open hearts and open arms.

"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Dear Members and Friends of Christ Presbyterian Church,

Each time we gather for worship, service, or fellowship, we are living out a legacy of faith started by the generations who came before us. They were the faithful stewards who built our building, founded our ministries, and had the foresight to establish endowments that help sustain us today. We are the grateful beneficiaries of *their* vision and generosity.

Now, it is our turn to be the visionaries. It is *our* time to build upon that foundation & secure the future of our ministry and mission for the generations who will follow us.

Our church is not a building; it is a living body of people. Our ministry is carried out by the hands and hearts of our dedicated pastors, musicians, teachers, and support staff. They preach the Word, comfort the grieving, teach our children, and maintain the sacred space where we all encounter God. Likewise, our mission is the tangible expression of Christ's love in the world, answering the call to serve the least, the lost, and the alone in Canton and beyond.

With this in mind, the Session has prayerfully established an ambitious goal: to increase our church endowments by **\$10 million over the next 10 years**. This new fund will be strategically designated to fortify the two pillars of our church's purpose:

- **90% to Sustain Our Ministry Leadership:** To ensure that Christ Presbyterian will always have the resources to call, retain, and fairly compensate gifted pastoral, program, and support staff. This would provide stability for our congregation and guarantee uninterrupted spiritual leadership and care for the future.
- **10% to Expand Our Mission Outreach:** To unleash our capacity for service, allowing us to say "yes" to new opportunities for mission, deepen our partnerships with local charities, and dream boldly about how we can share God's love in new and impactful ways.

This vision is rooted in the sacred call to stewardship. God has entrusted us with resources not for our own sake, but to do the work to which we are called. This includes planning faithfully for the future of the church God has called us to serve.

To help you understand the full scope of this vision, the following pages provide greater detail on our existing endowments and, just as importantly, the critical ministry needs that are not currently funded by them. Then, we have curated more information for you on specific ways that you might be able to contribute. We encourage you to read through this packet thoughtfully and prayerfully consider how you might join us in this faithful step forward.

In Christ's Service,

Benjamin D. George

Rev. Benjamin D. George

Michael J. Wallace

Rev. Michael J. Wallace



Dear Sacred Siblings in Christ,

Since its founding long ago, God has richly blessed Christ Presbyterian Church with pastors, elders, deacons, and congregants who have touched tens of thousands of lives with the message of Christ.

Their legacy has been immense. So many of us have been the recipients of their wisdom, leadership and generosity. Christ has reached us in part through them, be it in worship, choir, Camp Wakonda, or any number of the other ways. We are witnesses to the many blessings of these many generations.

What now shall we do? What is our calling to ensure the message of Christ is carried forward to our children, our children's children and the entire community?

The finance ministry has been carefully monitoring the financial condition of the church. It is sound. But we can and should be doing more. Thus, this endowment project will establish a solid financial foundation for many years to come, allowing the church to pursue its many critical operations and missions.

How can you participate in this? In this brochure you will see examples of "Ways of Giving," any of which may suit you. We encourage you to read them and ask questions of any of us or those on the Endowment Ministry.

It is strongly recommended that you discuss any significant gift with a professional advisor before acting in order to determine if it is in your best interest, as well as that of the church.

The Legacy 2035 Endowment account is open to contributions of any amount at any time. We believe strongly that one need not be wealthy to be charitable, and all gifts are appreciated by the spirit in which they are given.

We hope you will consider joining us in ensuring that doors are opened to new ways of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ at Christ Presbyterian Church here in Canton.

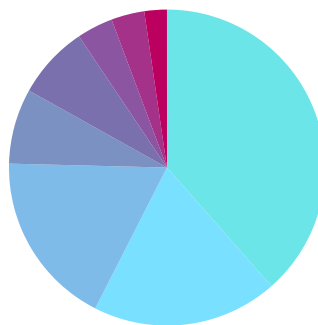
In Christ's Service,



Richard Milligan, Chair of the Finance Ministry



THE VALUE OF THE CURRENT ENDOWMENTS AT CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN AS OF 2025 IS \$7.9 MILLION



We are already the beneficiaries of endowments established over many generations. This snapshot serves to provide details about how our current funds are earmarked. For most of our endowments, we are only able to spend up to 5% of the earnings each year. To be clear, once funds are earmarked, we are charged with spending in those particular ways.

Designation	Percentage of endowments	Earned interest goes toward:
Capital/Property	38.5%	Maintenance and repair of the church building
General Fund	19%	Our annual operating budget
Scholarships	17.9%	Theological education for future clergy and post-secondary education, especially for our students
Cathedral Hour	7.7%	Livestreaming of worship services on YouTube and associated costs
Gibbs Trust	7.5%	Various expenditures, including technology, staff appreciation, choir banquets, and support of the general fund
Music	3.7%	The incredible music program at CPC, guest musicians, the concert series, etc.
Camp Wakonda	3.4%	The general operating budget, camp capital, and camperships
Other Misc.	2.3%	Supporting various areas, like Presbyterian Women, Stephen Ministry, Foreign Missions, etc.

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In November, three of our leaders and volunteers traveled to Pittsburgh, PA, to participate in Soul Shop, a specialized training for faith leaders. The mission of this program is “to equip faith community leaders and congregations with the tools and knowledge to effectively minister to individuals and families impacted by suicide by offering compassionate support, guidance, and hope.”

The day proved to be a meaningful time of learning, reflection, and healing. We returned better equipped to support our youth and church community, respond with care to those facing mental health challenges, and share what we learned with the youth and potentially the wider church community in the months ahead.

- Bonnie Wiggins,
Director of Youth Ministry

Staffing

Mission



PURPOSE OF THE LEGACY 2035 ENDOWMENT

The Legacy 2035 Endowment Fund is established to fortify the two foundational pillars of our ministry. By growing this fund, we ensure that Christ Presbyterian Church remains a vibrant center of faith, leadership, and service for generations to come.

Pillar I: Investing in Our People (90% Allocation)

Our church is built on the foundation of the people who lead us. We are blessed with a staff—pastors, musicians, educators, and support team—who represent over 105 years of combined service to CPC. Their institutional knowledge and devotion are the heart of our spiritual growth.

To honor this dedication and secure our future, 90% of the fund's earnings are designated to support a sustainable, competitive compensation structure. This allows us to:

- **Retain Excellence:** Secure the stability and institutional memory provided by our current staff.
- **Attract Talent:** Ensure we can competitively recruit gifted leaders for decades to come.
- **Ensure Consistency:** Maintain high-quality ministry leadership regardless of yearly budget fluctuations.

Pillar II: Empowering Our Mission (10% Allocation)

Building on the momentum of the Spirit and Space campaign, we are committed to making our mission work permanent. While previous funds provided a "jumpstart," the Legacy 2035 Fund ensures our outreach never fades.

10% of the fund's earnings are dedicated to our local and global mission work, enabling us to:

- **Sustain Service:** Keep our commitment to "the least, the lost, and the alone" thriving year after year.
- **Dream Boldly:** Empower the church to say "yes" to new outreach opportunities as they arise in Canton and beyond.

Our Goal: To transform our mission & staff costs from a yearly expense into a lasting legacy of Christ's love in action.

WHAT CAN I GIVE?

Gifts You Can Make Now (Lifetime Giving)

- **Cash & Securities:** Simple transfers of money or stock.
- **Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs):** Tax-free gifts directly from an IRA (for those 70½+).

Gifts That Pay You Back (Life Income)

- **Charitable Gift Annuity:** A contract for lifetime payments.

Gifts That Take Effect Later (Legacy Giving)

- **Charitable Bequest:** Naming the church in your Will or Trust.
- **Beneficiary Designations:** Naming the church on your IRA, 401(k), or Life Insurance policy.

We are the body of Christ,
Christ Presbyterian Church,
called to worship the Lord,
to be nurtured
and disciplined, and
sent out in mission
for the Canton community.



My involvement with the Mission Ministry introduced me to the leadership of Tiqvah; I was surprised to learn Tiqvah is far more than an after-school program. The staff provides comprehensive support: teaching Bible stories, helping with schoolwork, and assisting families who face daily struggles like food and utility shortages.

They also teach essential life skills to help children grow into responsible adults. Their commitment is clear; their joy is infectious.

-Beth Prosser Pansino,
Mission co-chair



GIFTS YOU CAN MAKE TODAY

*Providing immediate support for the Legacy 2035 Fund
while you are here to see the impact.*

CASH & PERSONAL PROPERTY

Cash is the simplest way to grow the Legacy 2035 Fund. You may wish to use a gift to honor a loved one, commemorate a special event, or establish a memorial. Contributions are added to the fund's principal balance, with earnings made available each year in perpetuity. Thus, as the principal grows, so grow the benefits to the church.

Personal Property, such as jewelry, rare coins, or art, may also be contributed. Donors should contact a member of the Endowment Ministry to determine if an item is suitable for the program.

APPRECIATED SECURITIES (Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds)

Appreciated securities are excellent endowment gifts. By donating shares directly, you bypass capital gains tax and receive a charitable deduction for the full fair market value.

- **Publicly Traded:** Shares are generally sold upon receipt. The deductible value is determined by the average of the high and low trading price on the date of the gift.
- **Closely Held:** Non-publicly held shares are acceptable, though donors should seek professional guidance due to the complex valuation rules involved.

REAL ESTATE

A personal residence, vacation home, or commercial property can be gifted to the endowment. The property can be sold, with the proceeds providing a significant boost to the fund, or in some cases, a "Retained Life Estate" allows you to gift the deed now while continuing to live in the home for life.

THE IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD)

If you are 70½ or older, you can make a gift directly from your IRA to the Legacy 2035 Fund without the distribution being counted as taxable income.

- **Tax Efficiency:** While you do not receive an additional itemized deduction, the "tax-free" nature of the transfer is often more beneficial.
- **Satisfying RMDs:** If you are age 73 or older, these gifts count toward your annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). This is an ideal strategy for donors who have sufficient other income and wish to minimize their tax burden.



In weekly rehearsal, Sunday worship, and special concerts, the Music Ministry of Christ Presbyterian Church illuminates the Word read and proclaimed through song. Whether employing voices or instruments, the ministry engages congregants of every age and enhances worship with intention and devotion.

From the communal act of congregational singing to the meticulous preparation of choral masterworks, we seek to engage every member of this community, to nourish each spirit, and celebrate our Creator through creativity.

-Heather & Britt Cooper,
Director of Music &
Organist and Director of
Chancel Choir

GIFTS THAT PAY YOU BACK

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*Securing your future income
while ensuring a future legacy.*

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY (CGA)

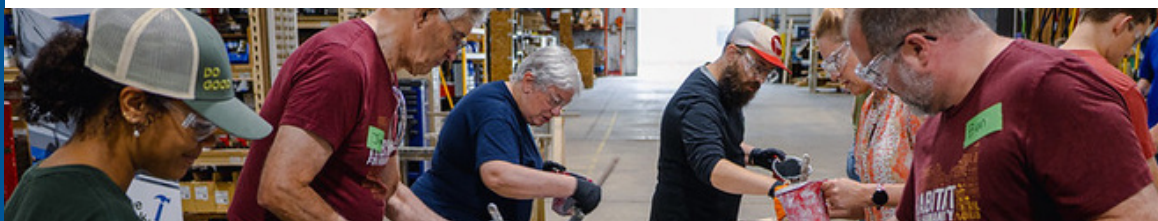
A CGA is a contract between you and our denominational foundation (www.presbyterianfoundation.org) where you exchange an irrevocable gift of cash or securities for guaranteed income for life.

How it Works (Example):

John, age 75, is a long-time member of his church. He has \$50,000 in a CD paying a low interest rate. He wants to support the church endowment but needs a dependable income stream. After consulting his advisor, he establishes a CGA.

- The Gift: John transfers \$50,000 to the church.
- The Income: Based on his age, John receives \$3,300* per year (a 6.6% rate) in quarterly payments for life.
- Tax-Free Income: A significant portion of these payments is considered a "return of principal," making it tax-free for a period of years.
- The Tax Deduction: John receives an immediate federal income tax deduction for a portion of the gift's value.
- The Legacy: Upon John's death, the remaining principal passes directly to the church endowment.

*Note: Example rates are for illustrative purposes and based on current ACGA recommendations. A CGA is not an insurance product under Ohio law.



GIFTS FOR THE FUTURE

Ensuring the church remains a bedrock of faith for generations to come.

CHARITABLE BEQUESTS

A bequest is one of the easiest ways to make a lasting impact. By including the church in your will or trust, you retain full control of your assets during your lifetime.

Ways to Give:

- **Percentage:** A gift of a percentage of your total estate (e.g., 10%).
- **Specific:** A specific dollar amount or specific asset.
- **Residual:** A gift of the "remainder" of your estate after all other obligations are met.

Sample Language:

"I bequeath [the sum of \$XXXXXX] OR [XX% of the residue of my estate] to the Legacy 2035 Endowment Fund at Christ Presbyterian Church."

The "Fourth Child" Concept: Many families divide their estate into equal shares for their children. We invite you to think of Christ Presbyterian Church as another "beneficiary" of your generosity. If you have three children, designating a fourth equal share to the Legacy 2035 Fund ensures your spiritual home is nourished just as it nourished your family.

Beneficiary Designations (Life Insurance & Retirement Accounts)

You can support the endowment without ever touching your will. Simply request a "Change of Beneficiary" form from your provider.

- **Life Insurance:** Name the Legacy 2035 Fund as a full or partial beneficiary. You can also transfer ownership of a paid-up policy to the church now for a tax deduction.
- **Retirement Accounts:** Naming the church as the beneficiary of an IRA or 401(k) is often the most "tax-smart" way to give, as charities do not pay the income tax that heirs would have to pay on these accounts.



I was walking through a local school this fall and felt two little arms latch around my leg. I looked down to see a camper from the summer giving me a hug. The camper's younger sibling ran up and gave me a hug as well, while giving me a look that said, "I don't know why I'm hugging you, but my sibling did."

Sometimes people don't know how to put into words what camp means to them, but they can show it.
-Zack White, Director of Camp Wakonda

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who manages the Legacy 2035 Endowment Fund?

The fund is overseen by the Endowment Ministry. They are responsible for ensuring that all gifts are invested prudently and that distributions are made strictly according to the 90/10 allocation (Staffing/Mission) defined in the fund's charter.

Is there a minimum amount required to make a gift?

No. Gifts of any size are welcomed and deeply appreciated. Every dollar contributed to the Legacy 2035 Fund increases the principal, which in turn increases the annual support available for our staff and missions in perpetuity.

Can I direct my gift to a specific program?

The Legacy 2035 Fund is designed to support the overarching health of the church through its two pillars (Leadership and Mission). If you are interested in supporting one of the existing endowment areas, please contact the Endowment Ministry.

Does a gift to the endowment replace my annual pledge?

Ideally, no. Annual pledges fund the church's current year operating budget (the "here and now"). Endowment gifts are "forever gifts" intended to provide long-term stability above and beyond our annual needs. We encourage members to maintain their annual stewardship while considering the endowment for their legacy giving.

What if I change my mind after I put the church in my will?

A charitable bequest is entirely revocable. You retain control of your assets during your lifetime. If your family circumstances change, you can update your will & beneficiary designations at any time.

I'm not "wealthy"—is this booklet really for me?

Yes. The beauty of an endowment is that it pools the generosity of the entire congregation. Whether it is a \$100 memorial gift, a \$5,000 life insurance policy, or 1% of an estate, every gift works together to create a massive, permanent impact.

How do I get started?

The first step is often a simple conversation. You can contact the church office to be put in touch with a member of the Endowment Ministry. While we do not provide legal or tax advice, we can help you and your advisor understand how your gift will be used to further the mission of Christ Presbyterian Church.



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In 2025, our Youth Group traveled with 8 students & 3 adult leaders to the **PC(USA) Youth Triennium Conference** (Louisville, KY).

This was an unforgettable gathering of young Presbyterians from across the nation and around the world. Throughout the week, our youth worshiped with thousands of peers, engaged deeply in meaningful discussions about faith and justice, and built friendships that stretched far beyond our own congregation.

They returned energized, inspired, and eager to put their faith into action here at home. Those who attended can't wait for the chance to go again, and our younger youth are already looking forward to their turn in the future.

-Bonnie Wiggins,
Director of Youth Ministry



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CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEGACY 2035 INTENTION FORM

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." – Matthew 6:21

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of a gift to the Legacy 2035 Endowment Fund at Christ Presbyterian Church. If you have already made arrangements for a legacy gift or intend to do so, please let us know so we may express our gratitude and ensure your wishes are honored.

I. My/Our Gift Intention

(Please check all that apply)

☐ I have already included the Legacy 2035 Fund in my estate plans.

☐ I intend to include the Legacy 2035 Fund in my estate plans.

☐ I have made/intend to make a gift through a:

☐ Will or Trust (Bequest) ☐ Retirement Account (IRA/401k Beneficiary)

☐ Life Insurance Policy ☐ Charitable Gift Annuity ☐ Other: _____

II. Gift Details (Optional)

Providing this information helps the Endowment Trustees with long-term planning.

The estimated value of my gift is: \$_____ or _____% of my estate.

III. Recognition

☐ You may publish my/our name(s) in donor recognition materials to inspire others.

Please print name(s) as they should appear: _____

☐ I/We prefer to keep this gift anonymous.

IV. Request for Information

☐ I would like to speak with: ☐ a member of the Endowment Ministry, or ☐ a pastor about my gifting options.

☐ Please send me more information regarding Charitable Gift Annuities.

☐ Please send me more information regarding Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from my IRA.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this form to the Church Office in a sealed envelope marked "Attn: Endowment Trustees."

This is a non-binding statement of intent and may be updated by you at any time.