

Endowment Funds

Peace Lutheran Endowment Funds



Leave a Legacy

Funding an endowment fund to support the day school at Peace Lutheran Church was first introduced in the early 1980's.

Teacher Elta Kell and retired teacher Arnold Kell had become aware of endowment funds being set up in other congregations and recognized the value in creating an endowment fund to financially benefit our own Christian day school.

In January of 1983, the voters approved setting up an endowment fund at Peace Lutheran Church. Considerable effort went into properly establishing the endowment fund.

In March of 1984, the Peace Lutheran School Endowment Association was incorporated with the State of Wisconsin. The Association is a separate corporation from the Church but was created solely for the benefit of Peace's Christian day school.

Following the successful startup of the Peace Lutheran School Endowment Fund, pursuit of a similar fund to benefit the other areas of ministry at Peace Lutheran Church was initiated.

The Peace Lutheran Church Endowment Fund was established in February of 1987. This fund is owned by Peace Lutheran Church and is overseen by the board of directors of

the Peace Lutheran School Endowment Association. The fund has several subaccounts, including the Unrestricted Fund, the proceeds of which are directed annually by the voters' assembly. Other subaccounts have been set up over time as money was donated by individuals requesting the proceeds be directed to specific ministries. The subaccounts include Radio Broadcast, Altar Flowers, Seminary Scholarships, Debt Reduction, and the Church Work Student Scholarship.

The investments for both the Peace Lutheran School Endowment Fund and the Peace Lutheran Church Endowment Fund are managed by the Lutheran Legacy Foundation. Distributions are made annually from both funds by the Peace Lutheran School Endowment Fund board of directors after the earnings of the previous calendar year are determined. The Endowment Funds are designed to allow a percentage, usually between four and five percent, of the value of each fund at year end to be distributed, with the intension of spending earnings while largely retaining principal. The principal then continues to grow, allowing future distributions.

Both funds have grown significantly since they originated. As of June 30, 2021, the value of the Peace Lutheran School Endowment Fund was \$1,564,366.00 following this year's annual distribution of \$75,000.00 as well as an additional donation of \$25,000.00 from the fund to the Building Families in Christ ministry expansion campaign.

Also as of June 30, 2021, the value of the Peace Lutheran Church Endowment Fund was \$689,124.36 following the annual distribution from all subaccounts of \$33,500.

It is interesting to note that several of the sub-funds of the Church Endowment Fund have distributed more over the years of their existence than was initially contributed. Examples of this are listed below:

- The Radio Fund with a donation of \$900 has already distributed \$1,751.
- The Seminary Scholarship Fund with \$28,090 in donations has distributed \$38,890.
- The Debt Reduction Fund with \$26,460 in donations has distributed \$51,912.
- The Church Worker Scholarship Fund with \$52,510 in donations has distributed \$75,706.

What is remarkable about an endowment fund is the capacity to spend the money and yet have the funds remain. It's like having your cake and eating it too!

Donations to any of the endowment funds mentioned above are tax-deductible and can be made in any amount at the church office. These endowment funds make an

excellent place to donate memorials and honoraria as the benefits of giving can last nearly forever! The Peace Lutheran School Endowment Fund and the Peace Lutheran Church Endowment Fund have been great blessings from God to our congregation. Contributions to the endowment funds can also be made in a safe and secure way by clicking the "Donate" tab on our website.