



Methods of Completing a Planned Gift to St. John's Episcopal Church

All that we are, all that we have, comes from God and will one day return to God

We are stewards of God's bounty. Caretakers. For a brief period we are given time, energy, and resources. What we do with these gifts ultimately defines the character of our life and the depth of our spiritual understanding. Planned giving is one expression of the wise use of the personal resources God has entrusted to us.

What is Planned Giving?

Planned giving encompasses a variety of ways that gifts can be made to the church from accumulated or residual resources. It usually involves financial or estate planning; however, it is not reserved for the wealthy. Planned giving is a means by which anyone concerned with the wise use of his or her personal resources makes a considered choice about their ultimate disposition.

In general planned gifts are made through:

- ***A Bequest in a Will***
- ***A Life Income Gift*** such as a charitable gift annuity, or a charitable remainder trust
- ***Gifts of Special Assets*** (real estate, closely held stock, life insurance, retirement accounts)

Planned giving establishes a way for a donor to provide for family members while remembering the church as well. It often enables the donor to provide more for his or her heirs and to make a larger gift than thought possible. It often reduces taxes as well.

Planned gifts can be designated for the church's general funds or its endowment.

Planned gifts are either outright gifts (i.e., gifts of appreciated securities, real property, personal property, etc.) or deferred gifts (i.e. bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable trusts).

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While a cash gift is always appreciated, there are many additional tools to allow you to make charitable gifts from your estate while enjoying financial benefits for yourself.

Guaranteed Income for You

With a charitable remainder trust, or a charitable gift annuity, you receive income for your life, and after your death, St. John's Episcopal Church receives the remainder. You also receive a current year charitable deduction for the portion expected to remain for the church after your lifetime. Plus, the trust assets will be removed from your taxable estate, so they're not subject to estate tax.

Tax summary: Current year charitable deduction can be carried forward if not all used in year one. Assets are removed from gross estate. With a Charitable Gift Annuity, a portion of the income payout is tax free.

Bequest of Cash

If you know you want to make a gift to St. John's Episcopal Church, but you do not want to part with the money while you are alive, you can name the church as a beneficiary in your will or trust for a specific dollar amount, or a percentage of the estate.

Tax Summary: Tax deduction to your estate.

Gifts of Securities

Both traded and closely held stock that has increased in value is historically one of the most popular assets used for charitable giving, once it has been held for a minimum of a year. Making a gift of securities to a Charitable Remainder Trust, allows you to diversify the asset without paying capital gains tax, create an income stream for your life, and get a current year deduction while removing the asset from your gross estate.

Tax Summary: Deduction for full fair market value, no capital gains tax.

Gifts of Retirement Plan Assets

Naming St. John's Episcopal Church as a percentage beneficiary of your retirement plans excludes the assets from estate taxes and avoids the taxes that will be required of your individual beneficiaries. The individual beneficiaries can then receive non-qualified assets with a stepped-up cost basis that is not available to qualified assets.

Tax Summary: One of the most tax efficient assets to bequeath. Avoid ordinary income taxation to beneficiaries. Remove from gross estate.

Gifts of Life Insurance

Donating your life insurance could be a wonderful way to fulfill your desire to support God's work. By making St. John's Episcopal Church the beneficiary of an existing policy, you make good use of your resources and expand your ability to make a significant gift.

Tax Summary: Tax deduction to your estate.

Although market gains are not what they once were, using real estate, such as your house or commercial property, to fund a gift allows you to preserve your cash assets, receive significant tax and income advantages, and make a charitable gift, that depending on how it is structured can remove the asset from your taxable estate.

Tax Summary: Removal from gross estate. Possible current deduction.

To read the St. John's Episcopal Church Gift Acceptance Policy, please click [HERE](#).

For assistance in making the most efficient and effective gift for you, please contact Parish Administrator Robyn Reed at robyn@stjohnsjackson.org or 307-733-2603. All inquiries are held in strict confidence.