



- **Memorial Gifts-** Families who have suffered a recent loss may ask that donations be made to First Church in lieu of flowers. Sometimes it is difficult to handle the numerous floral arrangements which may be delivered to a funeral service.
- Individuals and families may choose to remember and celebrate a loved one's life by making a special contribution in his or her name. Memorial gifts may also be given on behalf of groups, such as neighbors or co-workers.
- Families wishing to establish a special memorial fund in their family name or in the name of a deceased family member should contact the church office.
- **Gifts to Honor-** Make a gift to recognize or pay tribute to someone special in your life -- family members, friends, perhaps someone who has provided you special care, rendered you a special service, or someone who has achieved a special goal.

**Planned / Estate Giving-** Planned giving allows donors to make a gift to First Church as part of their personal long term financial and estate planning. Bequests enable donors to leave a lasting legacy when remembering First church in their will or trust. See legacy packet for more information

**Special Occasion Gifts-** Make a gift to acknowledge and celebrate special life events: baptism, confirmation, marriage, Mother's and Father's Day (for both living and deceased parents), birthdays, anniversaries, birth of a child or grandchild, graduations, promotions, retirements, or other milestones.

**Gifts Just Because-** First Church gratefully accepts monetary gifts of any size for any (or no particular) reason. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit we are committed to careful and responsible stewardship of all funds. All donors will receive a letter acknowledging their gift to

First United Methodist Church is incorporated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation in the state of Iowa. All donations given to the ministry of First Church are tax deductible.



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

127 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street

Fort Dodge, IA 50501

Email:

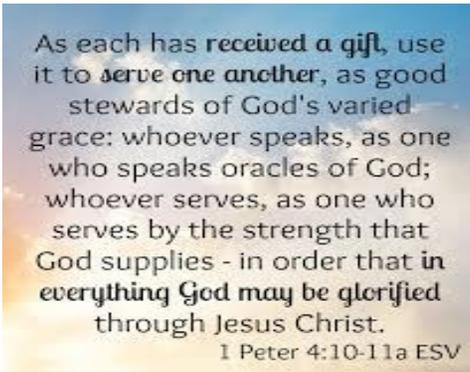
worship@fumcforddodge.org

Web: www.fumcforddodge.org



**FIRST  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**

*Memorial Gift Information  
guide*



Dear Friend, Thank you for your interest in the Memorial Fund at First UMC. First Church holds a special place in the hearts of generations of people who have worshipped here or found comfort here.

We are committed to preserving this place of worship and reflection for succeeding generations. To honor / memorialize a special person or milestone in your life by giving a monetary gift to First Church is an important way for you to be involved in the continuing operation and preservation of this historic landmark. Perhaps you are searching for just the right meaningful gift for someone 'who has everything' or for an appropriate lasting remembrance for a deceased friend or relative.

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*“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Colossians 3:17*

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There are two types of Memorials. Non-designated which are memorials to be used at the discretion of the Memorial Committee. The other type is a designated memorial. These are memorials that the person or family has specified where the monies should be given.

### Memorial Giving

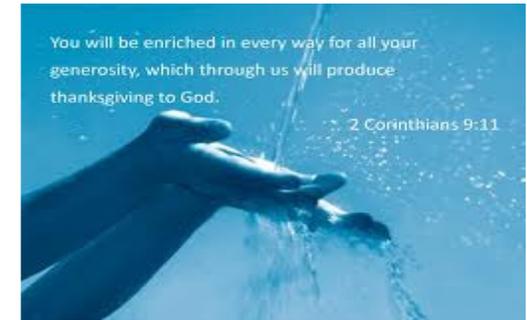
Memorial gifts provide a meaningful way for individuals, families and groups to witness their thanksgiving for the life of a loved one. To give a gift in another's memory is a faithful expression of respect and love that goes beyond death. Your gift to the Memorial Fund will enable our church to provide special items or ministries that benefit our church. It may be appropriate to remember a loved one by requesting that “in lieu of flowers, the family suggests that contributions be made to the First United Methodist”.

The Memorial Committee will maintain a list of needs in the church which are not funded in the church budget and which would be suitable as a memorial gift.

### What do Memorial Gifts support?

Items for memorial gifts would include, but not be limited to, items of a durable nature which:

- Enhance the worship of God
- Enhance the spiritual growth for all ages; ie. Children/youth/adult ministry.



- Enhance the fellowship of the church
- Provide facility and infrastructure needs for ministry
- Support church and denominational mission projects
- Support our church in creating places for new people to join in loving God and neighbor
- Help secure the future of our church as part of our permanent endowment.

### **Specific Needs of the church currently are:**

- Building Fund, Sidewalk Sunday School, Worship music and supplies, and Children/youth ministry

All memorial gifts will be received by the Financial Secretary, deposited in our Memorial Fund, acknowledged to the family by the Memorial Committee in a timely manner. The Memorial Committee may work in consultation with the deceased's family to determine appropriate use of memorial funds. On Memorial Weekend our congregation will receive a report on gifts received the previous year.