

*Hope  
for the  
Future*



**Consider The Grove UMC  
Endowment Fund**

The Grove United Methodist Church  
has a well-established endowment fund

## ***Hope for the Future.***

The fund is designated to help you and your family establish  
a legacy gift where a portion of your gift (up to 3%)  
is distributed annually to the ministry  
cause of your choice.

### **Plan A Gift to Your Church**

Including your church doesn't mean forsaking your children. You can  
provide for both. Simply state in your will or estate the following:

I give The Grove United Methodist Church ***Hope for the Future  
Endowment Fund*** a specific dollar amount or a percentage of my  
estate, to be used by the church for the designated need(s) of my  
choice: general purpose, scholarships, missions, capital needs,  
and/or worship and music. (*Suggested language for will.*)

Your planned gift will make a much greater impact than you can  
imagine. It may also provide you with significant tax advantages.

**For more information please contact Pastor Dan Wetterstrom at  
651-738-0305, ext. 113 or at [dwetterstrom@BeingTheHope.org](mailto:dwetterstrom@BeingTheHope.org)**

## ***FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:***

### ***1. What is the Endowment Fund?***

The Grove UMC has an Endowment Fund named the “Hope for the Future” fund. It was established in 1994 and expanded in 2011 when a large gift was received from the Nippoldt family. Hope for the Future provides a means for those who love our church to continue its mission well into the future.

### ***2. How would a gift to the Endowment Fund differ from my annual gift to the church and its missions?***

While your current gifts to the church go to the annual operating budget and to ongoing missions through our “Being the Hope” campaign, a gift to the Endowment is invested with the objective of protecting and growing the principal. The annual earnings are able to provide gifts to the specific areas you have designated. In this way, your gift becomes a perpetual gift which goes on giving into the future.

### ***3. How is the Endowment Fund invested?***

We know that having these gifts invested prudently is important to you. For that reason, we have chosen to invest the portfolio through the United Methodist Foundation, which has a long successful track record in managing endowment assets for over 400 United Methodist churches in Minnesota and Wisconsin. In addition to good performance, they invest in keeping with the social principles of the United Methodist Church. Since the Endowment has a long time horizon, it is invested for growth with an allocation of 65% stocks and 35% bonds.

### ***4. What is an appropriate amount for me to give? Is there a minimum?***

This is a personal decision to be made within your family. One way to think about it would be to consider leaving 10% of your estate to the Endowment, similar to the Biblical concept of tithing. Or you may wish to make a donation of a specific dollar amount, either in the present or as a part of your estate plan. If you are willing to pledge that you have included the Endowment in your estate plan you will become a member of our “Being the Hope Legacy Society.”

### ***5. What if I change my mind?***

We recognize that your intent may change over time. Until the gift is made (assets transferred), it is only a declaration of intent. If your intent changes at any time, you can modify the gift. We only ask that you advise us of that change.

**6. *How will these legacy gifts be used?***

Each donor may currently choose among five categories: Missions, Scholarships, Worship & Music, Capital Needs, or General Purpose/Unrestricted. Each year, the Endowment Committee votes to transfer up to 3% of assets in each category to be used for the designated purpose. Each of these categories has an established process for selecting the gift recipients during the year.

**7. *What is the greatest current need for Endowment gifts?***

It is impossible to know what the greatest needs of the church may be in the future. You should consider your gift in light of what is most important to you. The “General Purpose/Unrestricted” category allows your gift to be used for whatever are the most pressing needs of the church at any point in time. However, you may find you have particular areas where your heart leads you to give.

**8. *What if I would like to give to a new category or for some specific need for the church?***

There is a distinct difference between giving to the Endowment and giving to the church for a specific need. Gifts for specific needs or projects should be discussed with the pastors to determine the best way to proceed. If you give a gift during your lifetime you have the benefit of seeing your gift put to work. Gifts to the Endowment, on the other hand, are intended to exist over time so that your gift may be of benefit both in the present and in the years to come. If you see a need category that is not being met, please bring it to the attention of the Endowment Committee. If you want to establish a new category within the Endowment, there is a minimum gift required.

**9. *What if I don't have a will or an attorney? Can you help with this?***

If you don't have your own attorney, we would be happy to provide you with a list of attorneys that others in our church have used to complete or update their wills. Other ways to give to the Endowment would include making the Endowment a designated beneficiary of your life insurance policy, 401(k), IRA, or brokerage account.

**10. *May I donate something other than cash or investments?***

We are appreciative of all gifts, as we know they come from grateful hearts. Some gifts may be very illiquid or costly to manage. In such cases, the Endowment Committee has the final determination regarding whether to accept any individual gift, should such gift be determined not to be in the best interest of the Fund or the Church. If you are contemplating such a gift, please speak with the pastor or to a member of the Endowment Committee so that we may understand the circumstances and make a decision that will be best for all.

## **ESTATE PLANNING REFERENCES**

Mike Bradley  
Bradley Berkland Hagen & Herbst, LLC  
1976 Wooddale Drive, Suite 3A  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
(651) 379-0900

Amanda R. Hespen  
Jeffrey P. Scott & Associates, LLC  
2356 University Avenue West, Suite 400  
Saint Paul, MN 55114  
(651) 647-9533

Patrick J. McGuigan  
Kelly & Lemmons, PA  
223 Little Canada Road East, Suite 200  
Little Canada, MN 55117  
(651) 224-3781

**Hope for the Future** Endowment Fund  
Donor Declaration

Name(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone

\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We have remembered **Hope for the Future Endowment**  
in my/our estate planning or with a planned gift.

Type of gift (bequest, percentage of estate, insurance, IRA, stock, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Direction regarding use of my gift (indicate percentages if more than one)

- \_\_\_\_\_ General Purpose/Unrestricted
- \_\_\_\_\_ Missions
- \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarships
- \_\_\_\_\_ Music & Worship
- \_\_\_\_\_ Capital Needs

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We would like a referral for an attorney or financial advisor

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We would like to visit with Pastor Dan Wetterstrom or a  
Member of the Endowment Committee.

(Please return this form to the church office at 7465 Steepleview Road, Woodbury, MN 55125  
You will receive an acknowledgement and copy for your records via return mail.)



Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

The   
GROVE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7465 Steepleview Road

Woodbury, MN 55129

[www.TheGroveMN.church](http://www.TheGroveMN.church)