

We encourage current or future giving in any amount, because each gift is important. We urge pastors to engage in life-enhancing conversations about parishioners' hopes and intentions. When you don't ask, you usually don't receive.

**But Jesus says, "Ask and you shall receive ...knock and the door will be opened to you."
(Matthew 7:7)**



The Episcopal Foundation of Northern California

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From Gratitude to Action



Our mission is to make disciples, raise up saints and transform communities for Christ in Northern California ***by enhancing the financial vitality of our congregations and institutions.*** We will accomplish this through education, consultation, management and coordination with individuals and local and diocesan leadership.

We all want our lives to have meaning and make a positive difference. We want to feel good about what we do. As Christians we participate in Church to strengthen our walk with God. But, how do we plan our legacies? Often this topic gets swept aside because it assumes death, and no one wants to talk about that!

What if those “death” discussions were actually about life? What if we saw in death the opportunity to give a benefit to those we love? We do that with gifts to our families. Doesn't it make sense to consider our church as a family member when we are taking responsible actions about our resources? In fact, we don't even need to die before making such gifts!

Here's a surprise: When you talk to someone who has made a donation, whether of current assets or a planned gift to be distributed at their death, you realize something remarkable. The donor feels really good about it! The size of the gift makes no difference. When we give we feel good!

People give, not because they are “guilted” into it, but because they are grateful. They may be grateful for love received or because they believe the work of the organization is vital. Whatever the particular motivation, it is gratitude that inspires us to give. When we are grateful we act. What are you grateful for, and what do you want to leave as your legacy? If you arrange it now, it won't be neglected by your heirs.

“The church drives home what really matters in life and giving to the church provides the opportunity to assure the values that are important to us continue in the world to come.”
Lisa and Jim Sargent

Since its founding in 1983, the Episcopal Foundation of Northern California (EFNC) has promoted planned giving programs throughout the Diocese. We are a non-profit religious corporation that provides financial education, facilitates gifts and develops giving programs for congregations and institutions. We are an all-volunteer organization, with a half-time administrative assistant. **Members of our board work with diocesan groups to enhance the financial vitality of our congregations and institutions.**

We are your Episcopal sisters and brothers, and our purpose is to strengthen all of us for the mission of the church. In support of your efforts we offer the following:

- Provide educational information and materials on how to make specific planned gifts. Please check our webpage (Info Center) for downloadable resources.
- Facilitate gifts of stock so you don't have to set up your own brokerage account.
- Offer a **Life Planning Guide Workshop** to your congregation or regional group.
- Sponsor **The Vine and Branch Society**.
- Provide the **Let's Get To It!** program and other resources to congregations that want to develop the ministry of planned giving.
- Organize an annual appeal in which as many diocesan entities as want to can participate, at no cost to you.
- Listen to your needs and identify appropriate resources for you.

And we never charge a fee!

